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ISLAMIC CONGRESS OFFICIAL DEPLORES MOSCOW'S DECISION, URGES ACTION

LD051533 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1320 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Jidda--The secretary general of the Islamic Congress organization, Habib Chatti, has appealed to all members of the organization to take measures they consider beneficial in order to put an end to foreign military presence in Afghanistan. He stated that the events in Afghanistan have aroused feelings of indignation in the Islamic world because Moscow's decision contravened all international agreements. He explained that Moscow's actions are bound to have dire consequences on the Islamic countries.

He stressed that the organization, whose principles stipulate respect for the internal affairs of every country, especially its member countries, considers it its duty to defend the principle of freedom of all peoples and respect for their independence. Therefore it cannot remain idle in the face of this military intervention by a foreign state in the affairs of an Islamic country.

PLO SPOKESMAN REJECTS U.S. BASES IN EGYPT, ISRAEL

NC051226 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to Arab World 1115 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has commented on the U.S. intention to establish military bases in occupied Palestine, Egypt and other states in the area in order to confront the world liberation movement. He said: Any U.S. bases established on any Arab land will, in the PLO view, be considered an illegal occupation that will be resisted by all means. He added: The Arab nation, which on the official and popular levels has denounced U.S. policy in the Arab area, as well as the U.S. role in encouraging and concluding the Camp David accords, has given its view in advance on any U.S. military or political presence in the Arab area.

Furthermore, in light of the U.S. role in the Camp David accords, any U.S. military presence on Arab land can only be viewed as a link in the chain of military cooperation with the Zionist enemy and an attempt to return the area to the policy of alliances and subservience.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SOVIET LEADERS

NC050709 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Last night brother Commander Abu 'Ammar received Comrade Aleksandr Soldatov [the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon] who handed him a message from the Soviet leaders on the latest developments in the current situation.

'ARAFAT DENIES IRANIAN VOLUNTEERS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC061160 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 6 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Brother Commander Asu 'Ammar has granted an interview to the Netherlands and Belgian television in which he replied to a number of questions on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

In reply to a question on the presence of Iranian volunteers in southern Lebanon, the brother commander affirmed that no Iranian volunteers have arrived in southern Lebanon.

ARAB LEAGUE SEEKS POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB-AFRICAN MEETING

LD062040 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0712 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tunis, 6 January--The Arab League has proposed the postponement of the Arab-African Ministerial meetings--scheduled to be held in Libya this month--until next March because of differences over Egypt's representation.

The proposal was announced following an extraordinary meeting held by the Arab League Council here yesterday to discuss the African countries' rejection of an Arab demand to bar Egypt from attending the meetings of the permanent Arab-African Cooperation Committee scheduled to be held in Tripoli next Thursday.

The purpose of the meeting of the committee, which consists of 12 ministers from the Arab League and 12 from the OAU, is to prepare for a meeting of Arab and African foreign ministers in Tripoli on 14 January.

The Arab states, which are boycotting Egypt because of its peace treaty with Israel, have asked that the Egyptian Government be bared from attending the meetings. But the African side insisted that Egypt continue to be one of the countries representing the OAU on the committee of 24 foreign ministers. The Arab League Council has asked Secretary General Chedli Kelibi to contact the OAU with a view to postponing the meetings until March.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH FORMER BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER

NC050818 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar met last night with Leo Tindemans, the former Belgian prime minister and the leader of the Social Christian Party, and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, which was attended by PLO Political Department Chief Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], a comprehensive review was made of the latest developments in the Middle East, especially concerning the Palestinian issue. The talks, which took place in a cordial atmosphere dominated by mutual respect, dealt with Belgian and European relations with the PLO and the Arab world.

During the meeting the Palestinian side affirmed the following:

1. The PLO affirms that the Palestinian issue is the essence of the conflict in the Middle East and that peace can only be achieved through Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab areas and through the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right of return, the right of self-determination, and the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own independent state on the basis of the UN Charter and resolutions.

2. The PLO expressed its satisfaction over the increased European interest and recognition of the PLO and the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, and considers this useful for the quick establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

3. The PLO affirmed the rejection of separate solutions, especially those called the administrative autonomy, because they are contrary to the UN resolutions.

The two sides affirmed the importance of an Arab-European dialog. They also affirmed that a just peace in the world cannot be achieved without respecting the principles which prohibit the expororiation of seizure of the land of others through force. The two sides affirmed their condemnation of any violations of the International Human Rights Charter and the Geneva agreement. They affirmed their respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon and the unity of its people.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

LD051552 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah has stressed that Kuwait believes that politics means dealing with matters with wisdom, patience, impartiality, realism and honesty--contrary to the belief of those who consider that politics means deviousness and hedging, or rather lies and deception. He said this in an interview with the Paris paper JEUNE AFRIQUE.

On the question of the American hostages in Tehran, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that Kuwait, while not agreeing with the violation of diplomatic immunity and the privileges granted by diplomatic conventions, does not quite understand the complications of this issue and the reasons which led to the holding of hostages. He expressed the hope that the question would be resolved in a manner which would preserve the rights of the Iranian people and lead to the safe release of the hostages.

Asked whether the world was being once again pushed toward a state of cold war, he said that war will exist so long as there are states which act only in their own self-interest without regard to the interests of others. What we fear is that the cold war may turn into a hot one. He added that unless sensible people realize the gravity of the situation and end this dangerous game, which harms the people's interests and threatens them with every sort of danger, the whole world will become involved in this cold war. He expressed the hope that the international organizations will act to put an end to the arrogance of power, the arrogance of ambition, the arrogance of flaunting the ability to intimidate the world and an end to attempts to exploit the world's natural resources which should be at the service of its peoples as well as those who have suffered from the conduct of people with selfish ambitions and evil aims.

On relations between Kuwait and Africa, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister declared that there are extensive relations, joint interests and common sufferings which link Kuwait and other Arab countries with that continent. For this reason the friendship between us is one of pure brotherhood, free from any blemish. We appreciate the attitude toward us by many of the African states in the international organizations--especially in support of our position on Palestine. He said Kuwait supports the OAU.

Asked whether Kuwait has any intention of mediating in the Sahara dispute, he said that nothing of this kind is in prospect, adding: Kuwait has a view which it has often repeated to the leaders concerned--that the Arab situation cannot tolerate more differences between brothers. As Kuwait's relations with the two sister countries--Morocco and Algeria--are truly fraternal, we expressed our viewpoints to the two sides quite clearly and impartially, urging them to solve this question as two brothers, without there being any question of losers or winners. However, Kuwait will contribute toward the solution of any question of the Arab homeland and is ready to make additional efforts to resolve differences.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, in reply to another question, stressed that there is no vacuum in the region, adding: The vacuum is a strategem invented by people with evil intentions and ambitions who desire to interfere in the affairs of others, rather than to assist the people of the region. The alleged vacuum is the game of the strong. The world can no longer accept such an allegation. The people have awakened and are conscious of their interests and know how to defend them and how to make sacrifices for them. They can no longer be deceived by such misleading allegations.

'OFFICIAL SOURCES' NOTE POSSIBLE SHORTENING OF OIL CONTRACTS

LD051208 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--It was stated today that Kuwait is studying the possible reduction of the 5-year oil contracts signed with existing purchasers of Kuwaiti oil. AL-QABAS has attributed to what it describes as official sources a statement that the 5-year contracts "are gone forever and that the period now proposed is from 2 to 3 years." They stated that "this period is under discussion and liable to be changed to the lowest limit and we may settle on an even shorter period."

No immediate official comment about the report is available. The report says that the purpose of these short-term contracts "is to allow sufficient freedom of movement" to the Ministry of Oil in the future. The paper stated that the Ministry of Oil will convey this intention to three multinational oil companies with whom it is negotiating a renewal of contracts. These companies are British Petroleum, Gulf of America and British Shell, (Netherlands).

LIQUEFIED GAS PRICE INCREASES ANNOUNCED

LD050954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait today announced a 14-percent increase in the price of its liquefied gas effective from the beginning of the year, thus making the average price $301.2 per ton.

An Oil Ministry spokesman has informed the Kuwait News Agency that the price of butane gas--formerly $292 per ton--is now $332 dollars per ton, and the price of propane gas--formerly $241 per ton--is $276 per ton.

Kuwait increased the price of its liquefied gas by 6 percent at the beginning of December. The average price at the beginning of last year was $121.5 per ton.

OMAN

LIBERATION FRONT OFFICIAL GRANTS INTERVIEW

JN062155 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent on the front's struggle against colonialism and imperialism, Ahmad Salim, member of the Omani Liberation Front Foreign Relations Committee, has stated that despite the constant annihilation campaigns, the struggling Omani youths have resorted to armed struggle since 9 June 1965. This struggle has resulted in the liberation of more than 90 percent of Oman's southern areas. Salim added that after these victories, British colonialism tried to wipe out the Omani revolution by using one of its agents: Sultan Qabus. The deposed shah of Iran helped Sultan Qabus in this endeavor by sending his troops to Oman.

Salim added: Despite all the conspiracies that are being concoted to wipe out the Omani revolution, the revolutionaries' ranks have been united since 1970.

Speaking about the Omani Liberation Front's objectives, Ahmad Salim said that these objectives are freedom, the right of self-determination and revolution against the government of Sultan Qabus. He added: After the triumph of the Iranian Islamic Revolution, Egyptian, British and U.S. forces arrived in Oman and are now waging their attacks against the Omani people.

Salim added: We were gladdened and our determination was strengthened by the decision of the Iranian Islamic Government to withdraw its forces from Oman.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER FAVORS UN HANDLING OF AFGHANISTAN ISSUE

LD050934 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Foreign Minister his Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has called on the Islamic states to adopt unambiguous postures over the blatant Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in order to insure their safety and to prevent this grave Soviet aggression from achieving its aims.

In a statement to AL-BILAD, published today, his royal highness stated that no one country is alone in this matter and that all the Islamic countries and the developing countries are threatened by this danger.

He noted that the submission of the case to the UN Security Council at the request of more than 50 states, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, is considered normal since the United Nations is the natural framework for dealing with such an action which threatens international security. The UN, moreover, is the organization with the right to make an appropriate decision.

COMMITTEE TO BOYCOTT MOSCOW OLYMPIC GAMES

LD061137 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1122 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 6 January--The Saudi Olympic Committee has decided not to participate in the Olympic games which will be held in Moscow in 1980, in protest against the host country's flagrant aggression against a fraternal friendly people, the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

This was announced by Prince Faysal ibn Fahd, the head of the Saudi Olympic Committee as well as the Higher Council for the Care of Youth. He said that the committee had provisionally discussed the principle of participation in this year's games and would complete its discussions at future meetings in light of the advantages and disadvantages of participation.

BOUCETTA ARRIVES IN RIYADH TO DISCUSS AFGHAN SITUATION

LD062257 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2105 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--At 2330 this evening M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Riyadh on a visit to the Kingdom.

He was received at the airport by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, by Shaykh 'Abdallah 'Ali Rida, the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry for economic affairs, and by Shaykh 'Ali as-Suqayr, head of the Office of the Foreign Minister in Riyadh.

M'hamed Boucetta stated that he is carrying a message from King Hassan II to King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He added that his visit to the Kingdom comes within the framework of continued consultation between the Kingdom and Morocco concerning common affairs and the Islamic world.

Boucetta affirmed the importance of consulations at this juncture in view of the Soviet intervention in the affairs of Afghanistan. He went on to say: Consultations should continue so that Islamic countries may take a unified, joint stand in the face of that flagrant aggression. He added that he will confer with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to discuss bilateral relations and the issue of common concern.

Boucetta mentioned that he will conduct consultations with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, concerning the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Boucetta described the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a flagrant intervention which contradicts all norms. He added: The intervention threatens not only the Islamic world but the entire world. Boucetta expressed Morocco's determination to take all necessary measures to face that intervention by means of consultation and understanding with its sister Islamic states.

Afghan Issue Discussed

LD071228 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 7 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 7 January--Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, today met with his Moroccan counterpart M'hamed Boucetta, who is now on a visit to the Kingdom.

Following the meeting, which was also attended by Saudi Ambassador to Morocco Shaykh Fakhri Shaykh al-Ard, Prince Saud said that the meetings falls within the framework of constant coordination between the position of both countries toward matters of interest to the Arab and Muslim worlds.

In a statement to SNA, the Prince said that one of the aims of Boucetta's visit is to consult on the position and measures that should be taken to counter the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan which constitutes a violation of all traditions and practices and poses a threat to peace, security and stability in the area, as well as in the Islamic and developing countries.

The prince said that contacts are going on in this regard among all the Islamic countries and that they are being conducted at the highest levels. He pointed out that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan is a total occupation of an independent sovereign state which is a member of the Islamic and developing group of nations.

It is the duty of the Islamic countries in particular, and the world community in general, he said, to counter this grave situation--which simply means that the strong can do whatever it likes and that the era of ethical values in international dealings has ended. His highness warned against the gravity of the situation in the area which is turning the world into a jungle.

OIL MINISTER GIVES VIEWS ON OIL PROSPECTS

DW031108 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 31 Dec 79 pp 71-73 DW

[Walter Knips interview with Saudi Petroleum Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani at Tamanaco Hotel in Caracas--date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Your Excellency, OPEC once again failed here in Caracas in its attempt to come to terms on a standard price system. Unlike in Geneva, half a year ago, they did not even succeed in fixing a price ceiling. What sense do you still see in negotiating on prices if the market forces are clearly stronger than the desire for unity?

Yamani: It is debatable how the market forces ought to be assessed at present. Some of us believe that oil will continue to be scarce, that therefore prices will climb and that the oil companies will derive great profits from our oil. In contrast, the others, and I am one of them, anticipate an oil surplus which will halt the price increase.

SPIEGEL: An organization which has successfully prevented oil prices from tumbling in times of slight demand yet fails to show any price discipline in times of short supply seems to feel little responsibility toward the world economy.

Yamani: That is a very unfair judgment. If we were to leave the price totally to the market forces it would not be where it is today. We fixed a ceiling in Geneva. This shows that our organization not only would like to keep the price from decreasing but also seeks to stabilize it.

SPIEGEL: With little success. Several countries ceased to abide by the Geneva price ceiling as soon as 3 months later.

Yamani: But most OPEC countries respect this ceiling. This time, too, we were agreed that prices must be stabilized. Some countries, however, sought a higher level than we deemed justifiable in Saudi Arabia. Iraq, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Venezuela were on our side as well.

SPIEGEL: In the past several years you have always advocated careful price increases or even temporary price halts. Was it not a surrender to the so-called price hawks Libya and Iran when you hiked your crude price by one third just before the opening of the conference?

Yamani: No, because in the past the market forces did not allow us any price hikes owing to the oil surplus. Now the market forces have hiked the oil price, and the oil companies profited from that. Therefore, what mattered to us was not to increase the oil price but only to get back from the oil companies the special profits which they cleared from our oil.

SPIEGEL: Was it not a serious tactical mistake to publicize your price hike just 4 days prior to the opening of the conference?

Yamani: No, because we wanted to get back from the oil companies some of the huge profits they had already collected for November and December. Since we always present the bill to the oil companies on the 15th day of the following month, we had to announce our price prior to 15 December.

SPIEGEL: Was this why you announced your price prior to 17 December, the opening day of the conference?

Yamani: Right. Naturally, we had yet another reason. We wanted to prevent the conference from becoming an auction, an oil bazaar. We were aware that other countries would insist on $35 per barrel.

SPIEGEL: Yet by your action you also encouraged Libya and Iran to increase the price prior to the conference.

Yamani: I know Libya and Iran very well. They did not need any encouragement from Saudi Arabia.

SPIEGEL: What countries like Libya and Iran are after obviously is to embarrass you by refusing to comply with your demand for a return to a standard price system. Is the economic split not a clear sign of serious political differences?

Yamani: If you were familiar with the inside story of OPEC you would know that political factors are not so important. Take Iraq, for example.

SPIEGEL: Formerly Iraq was one of the leading price pushers and now was on your side for the first time.

Yamani: Do you know why?

SPIEGEL: Could it have something to do with the improved relations between your country and Iraq?

Yamani: We now have better relations indeed. But the Iraqis are discovering more reserves, and they are extracting more. They are now the number two OPEC producer, and this has some effect on their price policy.

SPIEGEL: Why was the proposal concerning an increase in the basic price from $24 to $26 and the establishment of a ceiling of $30 not adopted at the conference? Who rejected it?

Yamani: This was a hypothetical proposal which was not discussed in further detail.

SPIEGEL: Would you have been prepared to go to $26 if Libya and Iran, on the other hand, had undertaken not to go beyond $30?

Yamani: This again is a hypothetical question. We were aware that Libya and Iran were not prepared to do that.

SPIEGEL: Western oil managers predict that Iranian oil exports will decrease drastically in 1980 even if the Iranians want to keep producing as much as they have been to date. Allegedly the extraction installations are falling apart. Do you, too, fear a decrease in the Iranian exports?

Yamani: According to our information the Iranians can maintain a production level of 4 million barrels a day for many years to come, even without technical assistance from abroad.

SPIEGEL: You are predicting a temporary surplus on the oil market which will begin approximately in early March. The great unknown quantity is Iranian oil production. What extraction level do you assume?

Yamani: We will also have an oil surplus in the event of an Iranian production of a mere 3 million barrels a day.

SPIEGEL: In your opinion it is the consumer countries and not the producers who are responsible for the situation where the spot market in Rotterdam is flourishing so much with its high prices. To us this seems to be strange logic, because some OPEC countries are forcing their customers to buy a specific quantity of spot oil in addition to the contract oil.

Yamani: Where did that start? Oil dealers controlling the Rotterdam oil market first began to sell oil to specific customers at very high rates. These dealers then went to the producers and offered them a price higher than the official rate. Thus the initiative came from certain consumers, primarily from the Germans and the Japanese.

SPIEGEL: It is not known to us that it was above all German national oil companies which ran after the spot oil. The multis supplying us with oil are pursuing a supranational sales strategy for which the Germans at best are only partially responsible.

Yamani: The German market is a free market, your economy is a strong economy. You have all sorts of oil companies--multinational, independent, big and small companies. Since you have a strong economy and a free market the gate was wide open for these companies to carry oil into your country at very high rates. Because you in your country purchased 5 or 10 percent of the oil at the high Rotterdam rates some producers such as Iran, for example, ultimately got the idea of demanding such high prices from their buyers as well.

I do not want to criticize Germany by saying this. I only want to point out as a friend what went wrong.

SPIEGEL: What could the German government have done; should it abolish the free market?

Yamani: No, you need not do away with the free market, but you could simply prohibit oil imports to Germany from the spot market from a specific rate up. Japan has now begun to do just that.

SPIEGEL: Can this be controlled at all? As you know it is very hard to keep tabs on the supply sources and purchase prices of the multinational oil companies.

Yamani: After all, not all multis are buying on the spot market, just a few of them, like Shell.

SPIEGEL: Yes, but it is the multis like Esso, Shell and BP which dominate the West German oil business.

Yamani: The companies know what they have in the West German oil market. They are clearing huge profits there.

SPIEGEL: Shaykh Yamani, you have criticized the fact that the consumer countries have accumulated the greatest reserves of oil of all times and thus have driven prices up. How would you act as a consumer if you had to count on a development where Iranian production might be interrupted again tomorrow, where the Hormuz Strait is blocked by terroists, and if and when you hear about the occupation of the Great Mosque in Mecca as well as about unrest among Saudi oil workers?

Yamani: First of all I must say that I did not criticize the consumers for their stockpilling of reserves. Secondly, I do not believe that the events in Mecca and the so-called unrest in our eastern provinces, if it happened at all, are indicative of a lack of political stability. What was involved in Mecca was a very small, fanatic group of people who could have just as well hit in Germany, in the United States or elsewhere.

SPIEGEL: What makes you draw this conclusion?

Yamani: Last year, for example, there was an American by the name of Jim Jones who committed suicide together with about 1,000 people. These men in Mecca were just as abnormal, they came to the mosque with arms, which nobody could have anticipated since it is prohibited to carry arms there for religious reasons. They conquered the mosque and thought that if the Saudi Army were to come to boot them out the earth would swallow the Saudi Army. They assumed they would then not only rule Saudi Arabia but the entire Islamic world. If 300 people have such a mad idea, this is not yet indicative of a lack of stability in our country.

SPIEGEL: Americans and Europeans do not see this so casually.

Yamani: What they need is more information about the situation in our country.

SPIEGEL: The danger of a halt to Arab deliveries cannot be denied, however, and you said yourself that two sunken tankers would be enough to block the Hormuz Strait.

Yamani: Oh well. Fill up your reserves. But this is very costly to you, and the capacity of your tanks is limited.

SPIEGEL: You attacked the oil companies which purchased inexpensive Saudi oil and failed to pass the price advantage on to the consumers. But you do not seem to be so naive as not to know from the outset that your policy would bring huge profits to the oil companies.

Yamani: I am not naive. But I, too, could not simply foresee what happened in the oil business in 1979 because it defied all expectations. If psychological factors such as the fear on the part of the consumers of another loss of Iranian oil becomes part of the game, you can hardly predict anything correctly anymore.

SPIEGEL: You announced that you will enhance the capacity of the Saudi oil industry to 12 million barrel a day. Do you believe that you will regain control over OPEC?

Yamani: We are not jacking up our capacity to control OPEC, nor did we ever have such an intention. The work on the enlargement has been in progress for 4 or 5 years now.

SPIEGEL: Why are you enhancing your capacity? After all, you do not know what to do with the billions of dollars which you will then collect.

Yamani: This project was started by ARAMCO when this company still belonged to the U.S. companies Exxon, Mobile, Texaco and SOCAL, when we had not yet taken over control. We are going on because the installations were under construction already. This does not mean, however, that we will in fact produce 12 million barrels a day just because we have the capacity to do that.

SPIEGEL: How much can you produce at the moment? U.S. experts claim that you just cannot produce more than the present 9.5 million barrels a day.

Yamani: You can ascertain the actual capacity only if you venture to the upper limit with your extraction. In December we produced 10.5 million barrels a day, and thus we know that we have at least this capacity.

SPIEGEL: You said your price of $24 is a good price. Will it still be good in mid-1980?

Yamani: Nobody knows that. This depends on supply and demand. Perhaps it will be very good then, just about good, a bit too low, or slightly too high.

SPIEGEL: What do you guess?

Yamani: I believe that $24 will continue to be a good price.

SPIEGEL: In conclusion, a personal question, Shaykh Yamani: You have been petroleum minister for 17 years now; no other OPEC minister has managed to stay in office that long.

Yamani: ...19 years!

SPIEGEL: 19 years? You became a minister of state in 1960 and petroleum minister only in 1962--is that perhaps not true?

Yamani: This was in early 1962, and now we have late 1979.

SPIEGEL: Alright, 18 years then; let us compromise, something that your organization has not managed to do. Have you not gradually grown tired in office after such a long time?

Yamani: Ever since I took charge of the office the task of a petroleum minister has offered such a great deal of diversification and excitement that the work never became monotonous and tiresome.

SPIEGEL: Shaykh Yamani, thank you for this interview.

UAE

AL-FAJR: ARABS MUST NOT REMAIN BYSTANDERS ON AFGHANISTAN

JN050945 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 5 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 January--Today the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-FAJR calls on the people of the Middle East to avoid acting as bystanders in regard to the events in Afghanistan. In its editorial on the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan, the paper says: The people of the Middle East have adopted the position of onlookers within the international arena and continue to be merely fascinated by the surprises that are occurring so rapidly. The paper says: One must not rejoice over the UN Security Council sessions, because any resolution will be vetoed by the Soviet Union. The paper adds that the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan did not occur to support a certain regime but to completely occupy that country, in order to reach the Pakistani and Iranian borders. The paper warns against the spread of this dangerous aggression and against the encirclement of the oil sources, particularly since the Soviet Union has placed the keys to the Red Sea in its pockets. The paper calls for the provision of arms and ammunition to the Afghan people and for unity among Muslims all over the world.

AS-SADAT ON AFGHANISTAN, OFFER OF 'FACILITIES'

NC041310 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today performed Friday prayers at the Al-Khazzan Mosque in Aswan.

In reply to questions on Afghanistan posed to him by correspondents who gathered around him after the Friday prayers, President as-Sadat said: What is currently taking place in Afghanistan is causing much concern in the Islamic world. We suggest that the Islamic world do something about it. I have stated before that the Islamic world must not only condemn it by statements, but that there should also be deeds and acts. As far as Egypt is concerned, after the Friday prayers, today we offered a special prayer for the souls of those who were crushed by Soviet tanks. I will call for a meeting of the Political Bureau of the National Democratic Party, and we will make certain decisions which will be referred to the government. We will not be content with statements of condemnations, but will take practical positions. All the Islamic states and Islamic leaders who have so far kept silent must express themselves now.

Asked about a report in the OCTOBER magazine about Egypt's readiness to offer facilities to the U.S. Navy, President as-Sadat said: These facilities are not military bases. They are just facilities. When any Arab state in the Gulf requests assistance, and when the United States asks for facilities, I will be ready to give this assistance and these facilities, but I will not give the right to establish bases.

JERUSALEM TV REPORT ON OFFER OF AIRBASE TO U.S. DENIED

NC070931 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0858 GMT 7 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Aswan, 7 January--Defense and War Production Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the Israeli television report that Egypt had offered an airbase to the United States was totally unfounded. 'Ali added that Egypt did not offer military bases to any state but provided facilities only, as President as-Sadat pointed out.

The defense minister reaffirmed that the report originating from Israel was completely baseless.

AFP Report

NC070957 Paris AFP in English 0949 GMT 7 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Aswan, Jan 7, (AFP)--Egypt will offer air, land and sea staging facilities to the U.S. to help it respond to Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told AFP today.

"The Afghan people are a Moslem people who have fallen victim to aggression, and if the use of our facilities is requested to defend them, we will comply," General 'Ali said.

Egypt will allow the passage over its territory and through its waters of American land forces, airplanes and warships and will assist in their provisioning and refuelling, Gen 'Ali explained. The same facilities would be made available to any Gulf country requesting help in its defense, he said, adding that the facilities are similar to those offered the USSR before friendly relations between the two nations ended.

The Egyptian minister denied news reports from Israel that the U.S. was secretly building an air base in Egypt. The reports had been implicitly denied by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat last Friday.

But Mr. as-Sadat--who from today is entertaining Israeli Premier Menahem Begin here on a four-day visit--has spoken out strongly against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and has advocated a Moslem summit conference to mobilize the Islamic world against Moscow's intervention.

CONTACTS HELD ON SOVIET AGGRESSION AGAINST AFGHANISTAN

NC051315 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1247 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 January--The Egyptian Foreign Ministry today continued its extensive and important contacts with various states and their representatives in Cairo regarding the events in Afghanistan and the Soviet invasion of that country. Within this framework, Foreign Ministry under secretaries Salah Hasan and Samir Ahmad met with ambassadors of 25 Latin American, African and Asian countries to consult and exchange views on this Soviet aggression, which endangers the security and safety of the region.

Egypt's permanent representative to the United Nations, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, is also continuing his contacts with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali to brief him on the contacts he is holding at the United Nations concerning the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan.

UN Delegate's Speech

NC052204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] New York, 5 January--Egypt today reaffirmed its condemnation of the Soviet interference in Afghanistan, considering it a threat to international peace and security.

In a speech at the special session the Security Council held today to discuss the Soviet interference in Afghanistan, Egypt's permanent delegate to the United Nations, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, said that this interference blatantly violated international law, the UN Charter and the principles it represented. It also runs counter to the rules agreed upon in international relations and ethics.

In his speech, Egypt's permanent delegate said that this interference encroached upon Afghanistan's sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity and blatantly interfered in the domestic affairs and the rights of a people to freely choose their own political, economic and social system without any foreign interference.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid stressed that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan violated the principle of equal sovereignty among states and the principle of avoiding the use of force in international relations.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid cited several provisions of the UN Charter and the General Assembly's resolutions condemning both the use of force in international relations and any interference for whatever reason in the domestic or foreign affairs of a state.

In his speech, the Egyptian delegate also cited the final statement of the nonalined conference in Havana in 1979 relating to a people's right to determine their fate and sovereignty and develop their economic and social systems without any interference, pressure or threat.

In reviewing these principles and resolutions, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that the Soviet Union itself was influential in passing them.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid explained Egypt's view, saying that a UN member state had violated the important principles and provisions of the UN Charter. He stressed at the same time Egypt's strict adherence to the principles of international law.

The Egyptian delegate recalled the 28 December Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement condemning the Soviet interference in Afghanistan.

Volunteers for Afghanistan

NC060622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2318 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 January--A large number of Egyptian citizens have expressed a desire to volunteer to fight with the rebels in Afghanistan. The provincial secretaries of the National Democratic Party have received many applications from youths expressing such a desire.

In tomorrow's edition, AL-JUMHURIYAH quotes Deputy Prime Minister Fikri Makram 'Ubayd as saying that the party committees in the governorates will collect donations for the aid of the revolution in Afghanistan.

DECISION TO REDUCE SIZE OF SOVIET MISSION REPORTED

NC061921 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The Politburo of the National Democratic Party [NDP] held a meeting in Aswan this morning under the chairmanship of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat to discuss the situation in Afghanistan. The meeting lasted 5 hours. Mansur Hasan, NDP spokesman, said later that the Politburo decided to abolish political relations at all levels between Egypt and the Marxist regime in Aden and the Ba'thist regime in Syria for their support of the aggression against Afghanistan.

The Politburo welcomed the Egyptian Government's decision to reduce the number of Soviet political and diplomatic missions in Egypt. The Politburo also decided that the Egyptian Government should study the position regarding the Arab League, the establishment of a league for Arab and Islamic affairs and the invitation for an Islamic summit conference at any time and in any place to be agreed upon.

The Politburo also recommended that facilities be offered to Afghan youths for military training in Egypt, that financial aid be offered to Afghan rebels and people, and that the Egyptian people be called upon to contribute toward this objective.

Following the meeting, Mansur Hasan answered correspondents' questions.

Asked what he meant by reducing the number of Soviet diplomats in Egypt and whether this included the ambassador, Hasan said that this meant reducing the number of Soviets in various aspects.

Asked whether Egypt thought of breaking off diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, he said: We will see how the situation develops later. We will see whether the need for that possibility arises in the future.

Asked whether the discussion dealt with offering military assistance to Afghanistan, he said: We are prepared to offer assistance if that is possible. We will study this matter. In principle, we have no objection.

About the U.S. role in defending the area, Minister Mansur Hasan said that the United States will study the role it must play in light of its assessment concerning the threats to which the area is subjected.

IRANIAN TERRORIST CAPTURED; SABOTAGE PLAN DISCLOSED

NC051939 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1924 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 January--State security intelligence has laid its hands on a plan by Iranian terrorists to commit acts of sabotage and arson in Egypt.

The leader of the terrorist group was arrested when he tried to enter the country via Cairo Airport; the sabotage plan was found on him. He gave details about the aims of the plan and those backing it.

Confessions Reported

NC061942 Cairo MENA in English 1915 GMT 6 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Jan 6--(MENA)--Iranian defendant Falah ad-Din Mohammad Gotchen admitted today that he was assigned by an Iranian organization called "Feda'in-ye Islam" to set six arsons in Cairo, then to move subversive acts to Egyptian major cities such as Alexandria, Aswan and others for a number of explosions.

The Iranian defendant, who was arrested the moment he arrived at Cairo Airport on December 21, gave a detailed confession of the subversive acts he was assigned along with some other Iranians in Egypt.

Falah, who came to Cairo from Athens, said that the organization which is headed by Shaykh Mohammad Salih Khalkhali is the one which gave him orders, exploiting that he was unemployed after he was discharged from the military service. The defendant was picked up by one of the leaders of the organization whose name is Grisha al-Ibrahimi who is in close contact with the head of the organization, Shaykh Khalkhali.

The defendant admitted that the design stipulated that he receive an entry visa to Egypt from the Egyptian Embassy in Athens under the cover that he wanted to marry an Egyptian girl he used to have correspondence with or to arrive directly at Cairo Airport and hand security men of the airport a bullet claiming that he found in the plane, so that he would be treated as a friend and receive the entry visa. The last trick was followed by the defendant but the security men suspected him.

The Iranian defendant noted that he received from the man who picked him up for the organization two cheques totalling 215,000 Iranian rials, in order to cover his expenses in Egypt and to buy chemicals needed for the subversive acts. He was promised a very good reward when he was back home from the mission, he said. The defendant was told that the Egyptian security forces were not that clever and that he could move freely. The defendant went on to say that he was deceived and found Egyptian security forces very efficient.

The Iranian defendant admitted that the aim of the organization is to export the Iranian Revolution to foreign countries with the Arab and Moslem countries to the fore. The organization has many agents working in the Arab countries and the world at large and its aim was to murder the shah and assassinate well known dignitaries for saving the Islamic peoples, the defendant admitted.

Interior Minister's Statement

NC062249 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 6 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 January--Egyptian Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il has said that the Egyptian security department has complete information about terrorist plans that the rejectionists are attempting to direct against Egypt as part of their suspicious movements, whether through material sabotage--by creating anxiety, causing explosions or carrying out assassinations to distort the image of Egypt and its people--or through moral sabotage--by spreading rumors and casting doubts about our national leadership and system of government.

The interior minister noted that the time has not yet come to reveal these plans, and stressed that the Egyptian security department was fully aware of its responsibility in this important phase and knew the dimensions of these plans and where the saboteurs were being trained.

In a television interview carried tonight following the confession of the Iranian terrorist recently arrested by Egyptian security authorities, Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il said that the confession of this saboteur was one of several detailed confessions that revealed the chaotic situation and the unemployment following the Islamic Revolution in Iran, where some 150,000 university graduates are unemployed.

He noted the fumblings of the Iranian leadership, the collapsing domestic situation in Iran and the current crisis between Iran and the United States over the American hostages. He said that Egypt had given its view on the subject and had drawn the Iranian people's attention to the harm this was causing to them and to Islam. Moreover, the entire world has denounced the holding of the hostages.

The interior minister noted that the rejection fronts in Syria and Libya were surviving through anxiety, liquidation and terrorism. It is difficult for them to see the Egyptian people living in peace and security and scoring successive victories and achievements after the government laid down plans and realistic, scientific research for solving the people's problems and alleviating their sufferings that resulted from previous wars.

In his statement, the interior minister disclosed that several terrorists of various nationalities were arrested recently and were being investigated. The time has not come to reveal them.

Asked whether we expected further terrorist operations against Egypt following the normalization of relations with Israel, the interior minister said the Arab states believed in a peaceful solution of the problem and subsequently the establishment of normal relations with Israel. Nevertheless, they embark upon outbiddings and hatred against Egypt. He said: We expect campaigns of casting doubts as well as outcries by the Arab states while normalization of relations with Israel is taking place. We have complete information about what is being prepared against Egypt. There is no need for disclosing this now.

Interrogation Completed

NC071148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 January--The supreme state security prosecution today completed its interrogataion of Iranian terrorist Falah ad-Din Mohammad and decided to remand him to custody until his case was considered.

Raja'i al-'Arabi, the advocate general of the state security prosecution who conducted the interrogation, said the prosecution was continuing to interrogate Egyptian residents whose names were mentioned in the terrorist's confession.

Egyptian security organs arrested the Iranian terrorist when he tried to enter the country to carry out acts of sabotage aimed at obstructing peace and the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations.

GHALI SAYS PEACE REQUIRES COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

NC041519 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that a permanent settlement in the Middle East will only take place after the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Golan Heights, the West Bank and Gaza, the establishment of a Palestinian autonomy and the completion of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces to Egypt's international borders. Ghali further said that the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations was a course of action for the establishment of world peace and security.

Ghali stressed the importance of Israel's implementation of the peace treaty provisions, the complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory and the establishment of Palestinian autonomy. Ghali said that the Israeli officials' statements on Israeli settlements in the occupied territory were considered a contravention of the Camp David and Washington agreements and the spirit of peace and constituted a new obstacle in the way of the comprehensive peace Egypt was seeking to achieve.

Describes Topics of Discussion

NC050931 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 January--In statements published in AL-JUMHURIYAH today, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali stressed that the main questions Egypt is currently studying with the United States and Israel are centered on the following topics:

1. The measures necessary for building trust. In a letter sent to U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Israel has pledged to study these. These measures include: A) releasing political detainees and allowing the repatriation of those deported after June 1967 for political reasons; Egypt has a complete list of their names; B) reduction of the Israeli forces; and C) removal of the military command headquarters from populated areas.

Dr Ghali said these measures are the first step by which the Palestinian people can be persuaded to join the current negotiations and to view them as serious and important.

2. The settlements question. Egypt has been demanding that Israel stop building new settlements or expanding existing ones. As long as the Israeli authorities periodically issue statements on the establishment of new settlements, it will be difficult for the Palestinian people to join the negotiations.

3. The establishment of autonomy in the Gaza Strip first. This subject was discussed at length at Blair House and in negotiations between President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin.

Ghali said that even if Israeli circles and the Palestinians reject the idea, such a dual rejection must not constitute an obstacle to discussing it.

4. The question of Jerusalem. At Camp David President as-Sadat stressed in a memo to U.S. President Carter that Arab sovereignty must be restored to Arab Jerusalem.

Dr Ghali said that Egypt's stance is that Israel must withdraw from Arab Jerusalem. Resolution 242 calls on Israel to withdraw from all the territory occupied from 5 June 1967. After the Israeli forces withdraw from Arab Jerusalem, the idea of setting up a joint administration of public services in the city can be discussed.

About the normalization of relations, Dr Ghali said that it will include ending the economic boycott and lifting Egyptian reservations against Israel in international treaties. Egyptian ports will be opened to Israeli ships in accordance with normal regulations, and newspapers will be exchanged.

Dr Ghali noted that these measures will be taken in accordance with the treaty effective 25 January. Later, arrangements must be made for regulating these relations in various fields. On 25 January it will be possible to initiate economic, trade and cultural dealings but negotiations are required within 6 months to regulate these dealings in accordance with a technical agreement to be concluded for this purpose.

BEGIN ARRIVES IN ASWAN FOR 4-DAY VISIT

NC071038 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1034 GMT 7 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Aswan, 7 January--Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Mrs Begin and the delegation accompanying the prime minister arrived in Aswan at 1200 today for a 4-day visit.

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and his wife were at the head of those who welcomed Menahem Begin at Aswan Airport. He was also welcomed by Defense and War Production Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali; the chief of the president's office; Hasan Kamil; the housing minister and head of the escort mission which will accompany the Israeli Prime Minister and his wife during their visit to Egypt, Dr Mustafa al-Hafnawi; Reconstruction and New Societies Minister Eng Hasballah al-Kafrawi; and Aswan Governor Eng Ahmad Taha Husayn.

The Israeli prime minister was given an official reception. The band played the Egyptian and Israeli national anthems. Menahem Begin and Dr Mustafa Khalil then inspected the guard of honor which lined up at the airport to greet them. Two boys and two girls then presented bouquets of flowers to Menahem Begin, Dr Mustafa Khalil and their wives.

After the reception formalities, Menahem Begin and Dr Mustafa Khalil went to Overoi Hotel where the Israeli prime minister and his companions will stay during their visit to Aswan.

The Israeli prime minister is accompanied by a delegation consisting of the director of the prime minister's office, Gao Yishay; the military secretary at the prime minister's office, General (Yuran); the former director of the prime minister's office and Israel's ambassador-designate to Cairo, Elyahu Ben-Elisar; and the prime minister's official spokesman, Dan Patir.

The delegation also includes 129 journalists representing the various world newspapers and agencies. They include 54 Israeli journalists.

The first session of official discussions between President Anwar as-Sadat and Menahem Begin is scheduled to begin this evening.

ATH-THAWRAH DISCUSSES USSR INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

JN041045 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 4 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 January--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party organ, continues its analysis of events in Afghanistan and the possible repercussions on the Soviet Union as a result of its blatant interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

In today's editorial, ATH-THAWRAH says: Following an assessment of its relations with the Arab states since 1955, the Soviet Union has realized that some of the methods it employed in dealing with the Arab states must be reconsidered. The Soviet Union also realized that its belief in the possibility of transforming the region into one dominated by Marxist thought in a short period of time is not completely sound.

The paper pointed out that the region's special nature, including the West's sensitivity to its oil interests in the region whenever the Soviet Union gets close to them, requires that the Soviet Union stress the following slogan: to enter the region from outside rather than by working within.

The paper states that, accordingly, the Soviet Union acted on this premise when it focused on Ethiopia and Afghanistan, adding that its rapid achievements in Ethiopia and Afghanistan have caused it to adhere to its sound slogan. The paper adds: There is speculation, and we hope that it will not prove true, that the Soviet Union is now seeking partners in a relationship to insure ideological and political expansion in the region, a method that it has found to be preferable to relations of superficial friendship with other parties. For these relations--though based on friendship, progressiveness and a frank, sincere hostility to imperialism--do not guarantee the desired expansion.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party paper adds: So we find that the Soviet Union's prominent diplomatic activities virtually ended after the October 1973 war, when it focused on its relations with the PDRY and other Arab states, being convinced that there are particular states that are more sincere and effective in their hostility to imperialism than others.

The paper continues: However, it appears that the Soviets have become interested--and we hope that speculations to this effect also prove to be unfounded--not only in a party that is more sincere in its hostility to imperialism, a socialist and national party that is sincere in its respect for relations of friendship with the Soviet Union, but in alternative parties that are inclined toward the USSR's short and long-term strategy, rather than toward its friendships alone, formulas which it previously used as a means for entering the region.

The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH then analyzes the results and possible repercussions the Soviet Union could face as a result of the recent events in Afghanistan and its blatant interference in Afghanistan's affairs. The paper says Afghanistan's importance is not intrinsic, even though a communist regime in a Muslim country helps to create a rift in the psychological barrier between Muslims and communism, similar to the role played by the current Aden regime.

The importance of Soviet-Afghan relations goes beyond this to a geographical value, for Afghanistan is the strategic key to the oil region. The paper adds: This is why the Soviet Union took its actions in Afghanistan, thus shouldering all the consequences and possible repercussions, whether previously calculated or not, in this region and in the world at large.

ATH-THAWRAH points out that the Soviet Union has enjoyed respect and amity in its relations with the area's countries. Its role in arming the Arab countries once created significant appreciation in Arab citizens. The Soviet Union's adversaries were unsuccessful in their attempts to shake this confidence, despite statements in which they recalled the 1956 events in Hungary and the 1968 events in Czechoslovakia.

The paper adds that the Arabs who are sincere in their struggle and cause used to reply to these accusations by acknowledging the special circumstances in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, for their political status had been arranged under the influence of results and conditions deriving from World War II, in addition to other well-known factors.

The paper says: The blatant and large-scale Soviet intervention in Afghanistan's domestic affairs, or let us say "the occupation of Afghanistan," must inevitably provoke the anxiety of all the area's countries, in fact all countries in the world, whether or not they have friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

ATH-THAWRAH discusses the Soviet Union's connection with PDRY events, the elimination of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, the placement of 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il in the front running position, the intervention in Afghanistan's affairs, the toppling of President Mohammad Daud, the coup against Taraki and the elimination of Hafizollah Amin. It says none of these figures have connection with the Americans.

The paper says this policy of intervention has begun to provoke anxiety in the area's countries, as well as in those of the world at large. For, under such conditions, how and on what basis can confidence in international relations be established between two or more parties? This question will continue to be the principal concern of all the world's countries. To what extent will the Soviet Union be able to water down the reactions? This question will be answered by the events of the near and distant future.

The paper adds that the Soviet Union's well-known intervention in Afghanistan and [word indistinct] the withholding of hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran will have the effect of liberating the United States from many problems, thus increasing its ability to marshal its efforts at alliance with Europe and Japan, and will frighten and disturb the area's countries, which have no self-defense components.

ATH-THAWRAH says the Soviet Union's adversaries and the Arab nations enemies will exploit this state of fright, in order to drag many others into their fold by means of intimidation. Iraq's responsibility for alleviating these conditions has thus been doubled. Others seeking independence for their country should pursue Iraq's method in relations with their people, remaining free of corruption and vice and achieving happiness and prosperity for their people by means of a progressive, national and patriotic regime, not needing to fear because of their opinion of and denunciation of the Soviet intervention.

The paper says this constitutes the sound road, whereas seeking salvation through alliance with the United States would lead to the edge, and to the experience of the near past in most areas of the world. Iran is the best evidence of this. Thus, the sound path is to strengthen the nonalined relations between the area's countries and those of the world.

The paper points out that some people may ask how the Soviet Union managed to do what it did, despite all of the aforementioned facts. It says all of the realities and contingencies, with all of their aspects and origins, are not always clearly seen by policymakers. Some policymakers might rush to a tempting target without foresight and under the pressure of many considerations. Certain contingencies might prevent policymakers from making serious decisions.

The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH points out that Afghanistan is a Muslim country with a relentless, fanatically religious and traditional people, a mountainous and rugged topography and social links that are largely dominated by clannish relations; a country sharing a border with Pakistan and Iran, in addition to its long border with the Soviet Union.

The paper adds that armed opposition existed in Afghanistan prior to the Soviet force's entry and that a series of coups d'etat, which took place following the overthrow of Mohammad Daud, have weakened the pro-Soviet front.

The paper adds that the Soviet intervention will give more meaning to the opposition's resistance to the Kabul regime. The paper then poses the following question: Will the Afghan opposition and other anti-Soviet sides make Afghanistan the Soviet Union's grave-yard, thus affecting the Soviet Union's reputation and policy, just as the Vietnamese war affected the U.S. reputation?

The paper adds that it is certain that the Soviet presence in Afghanistan will not be welcomed by the Afghan people and that the Soviet mission in this country will not be easy. However, a comprehensive and complete answer to this question cannot be reached without examination of all realities and facts, which must be dealt with if future actions are to be deduced.

The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH points out that, in addition to what has been said, a more precise answer to this question would depend primarily on a decision by the West, particularly the United States, to confront the Soviet Union and upon whether it will directly retaliate in Afghanistan or elsewhere in the Middle East or in the world. The paper points out that one's attention is drawn to the fact that certain Western circles, including the Americans, learned about the possibility of Soviet intervention before it actually occurred but did not create an uproar against it, as they usually do, except after it took place. Did the Americans want to find out whether the Soviet Union had better planning than the United States?

The paper adds that what the Soviet Union did in Afghanistan will surely help in either finally or partially deciding the outcome of the unstable and tense situation in Iran during 1980. However, this will not come about through the maintainence of a general balance in the situation but through a tactical development, whether in the U.S. or the Soviet Union's interest. The paper adds that it is expected that the events in Afghanistan will also affect the internal situation in the PDRY and Ethiopia, as reports circulated on the tense situation indicate.

Concluding its editorial, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party paper poses the following questions: Will the events in Afghanistan and their subsequent developments prove to be a cumbersome burden on the Soviet Union? Will the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan provide the Soviet Union's enemies with the opportunity to cite Soviet action in Afghanistan as an example revealing a significant aspect of the superpowers methods and motives in the early stages?

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY REVIEWING TREATY WITH USSR

LD061012 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0716 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 6 January--Iraq has begun reviewing its 1972 friendship treaty with the USSR following the Soviet Union's military intervention in Afghanistan, according to press reports published here today.

The Kuwaiti AS-SIYASAH and its English-language sister paper ARAB TIMES today quote sources they described as reliable to the effect that the "justification" Moscow gave for its military intervention in Afghanistan 10 days ago--that is, that it falls within the framework of its friendship treaty with the Kabul government-- "has aroused fears of some Arab countries."

The report does not give the names of the Arab countries which it says "advised" Iraq to abrogate its treaty with the USSR "for the sake of preserving the security of the region." The two papers report that the Iraqi leadership "for its part has not rejected this advice but is believed to be seriously considering it."

The Iraqi newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, organ of the ruling Ba'th Party, has denounced Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, describing it as an occupation.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI ON TALKS IN YUGOSLAVIA

JN051547 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Belgrade, 5 January--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi announced here today that President Saddam Husayn will visit Yugoslavia this year at the invitation of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Belgrade following a meeting with Yugoslav Vice President Lazar Kolisevski, the Iraqi minister said that he conveyed to Kolisevski greetings and wishes for a speedy recovery from President Saddam Husayn to President Tito.

Hammadi pointed out that during the meeting important international issues were discussed, particularly the status of the nonalined countries in light of the turbulent international situation that resulted from the latest developments in Afghanistan. He affirmed that there is "total agreement of views on these issues."

Hammadi said he explained Iraq's foreign policy to the Yugoslav vice president, a policy which is based on total independence in international relations and correct adherence to the principles of nonalinement. He also explained Iraq's views on developments in the Arab region. He added that the Yugoslav official expressed support for this policy and referred to the difficulties faced by Yugoslavia and the bases of its foreign policy.

Views were exchanged on the necessity of increasing contacts and exchanging views on steps that might be taken internationally and in the sphere of the nonalined movement to confront the current international situation.

The Iraqi minister arrived here last Thursday as part of a tour during which he will also visit Romania.

Leaves for Bucharest

JN061620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Belgrade, 6 January--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the delegation accompanying him left Belgrade for Bucharest today following a 3-day official visit to Yugoslavia.

During the visit, Dr Hammadi held talks with his Yugoslav counterpart on bilateral relations and the current international situation. A joint statement on the talks will be issued later today.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH DJIBOUTI

JN041952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 4 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 January--Iraq and Djibouti today signed an agreement for economic and technical cooperation. The agreement was signed on the Iraqi side by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, and on the Djibouti side by Moumine Bahdon Farah, foreign affairs and cooperation minister.

The agreement provides for increasing and expanding economic, technical, cultural, information and tourism cooperation between the two countries. The agreement also states that Iraq will implement a number of projects in Djibouti.

ARMY EXTENDS FINANCIAL AID TO SOUTHERN LEBANON

JN061548 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] On the occasion of their 59th anniversary, the Iraqi Armed Forces granted Lebanese pounds to the sons of the Tall az-Za'tar martyrs as a contribution to cover their needs.

The money was presented on behalf of the Iraqi forces by the staff colonel military attache to Lebanon when he visited the Tall az-Za'tar institution--home of the Palestinian steadfastness children--this morning.

In a speech on the occasion, the military attache greeted the souls of the Tall az-Za'tar martyrs, who were martyred while defending the Palestinian revolution, the Palestinian people's honor and the Arabism of Lebanon. He said: I am glad to grant this money to the sons of the Tall az-Za'tar martyrs on behalf of the brave Iraqi Army, which shares the heroic struggle of the Palestinian revolution against the Zionist enemy for the sake of liberating Palestine.

The administrative body of the institution expressed its appreciation and gratitude for the financial aid given by the Iraqi Armed Forces to the sons of the Tall az-Za'tar martyrs. It stressed that Iraq has always taken the initiative in defending the Palestinain revolution and supporting its heroic steadfastness against the Zionist enemy.

DAMASCUS REPORTS ELECTION OF NEW BA'TH PARTY LEADERSHIP

JN060650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee has unanimously elected Comrade Hafiz al-Asad as its secretary general. This took place at the meeting the Central Committee held immediately after being elected by the Ba'th Party seventh regional congress.

The Central Committee elected the following comrades as members of the Ba'th Party's regional command: Hafiz al-Asad; 'Abdallah al-Ahmar; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Mahmud al-Ayyubi; Mustafa Talas; Dr Rif'at al-Asad; Zuhayr Mashariqah; Ahmad Dhiyab; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad; Hikmat ash-Shihabi; Nasir ad-Din Nasir; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf (al-Kisim); Walid Hamdun; Tawfiq Salihah; 'Izz ad-Din an-Nasir; Mahmud az-Zu'bi; Sa'id Hamadi; Dr Wahib Tannus; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah; Dr Sulayman Qaddah; Ilyas al-Lati.

The Ba'th Party seventh regional congress ended its work at 2200 yesterday. During yesterday's meeting discussion of the items listed on the congress' agenda was completed concerning the election of the Central Committee and the Committee of Control and Inspection of the party.

The following comrades were elected as members of the Ba'th Party's Central Committee:

Hafiz al-Asad; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad; Ahmad Qabalan; Ahmad Dhiyab; Ahmad 'Umar Yusuf; Ahmad al-Husayn; Ahmad al-Hasan; Ilyas al-Lati; Ibrahim Safi; Ibrahim al-Ja'ur; Tawfiq Salihah; Jayda; Ghadiri; George Saddiqni; Hikmat ash-Shaihabi; Hamduh Hajjuh; Hasan Shihadah; Hassan as-Saqqah; Danhuh Dawud; Dr Rif'at al-Asad; Rashid Ramadan; Zuhayr Mashariqah; Sa'id Hamadi; Dr Sulayman Qaddah; Shafiq Sayyad; Subhi Haddad; 'Abdallah al-Ahmar; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf (al-Kisim); 'Ali Aslan; 'Ali Dubah; 'Ali as-Salih; 'Ali al-Haydar; 'Abd al-Hamid al-Jamal; 'Adnan Badr Hasan; 'Adnan Dabbagh; 'Izz ad-Din an-Nasir; 'Ali Hamzah; 'Ala' ad-Din 'Abdin; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah; 'Abd al-Jaddar Qanduqji; 'Ali Sultan; 'Ali Dubdur; Ghassan Rajab; Fayiz an-Nuri; Fu'ad 'Abs; Kamal Sharaf; Mahmud al-Ayyubi; Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj; Mahmud Hadid; Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; Mahmud Kushaji; Muhammad Ghabbash; Mut'ib Shinan; Muhammad az-Zu'bi; Mustafa Talas; Mustafa Tayyarah; Mamduh Ja'luk; Mustafa al-'Ayid; Muhammad Dhiyab Talib; Muhammad Najib as Sayyid Ahmad; Mahmud Qaddur; Muhammad Rashid (Ikhtrayni); Muhammad Zaydan; Muhammad 'Id al-Tunayni; Mahmud Nuri (Tullubi); Muhammad Salman; Nasir ad-Din Nasir; Nazih as-Zuhayr; Nuhayyah Firas; Nazih Duwaydiri; Walid Hamdun; Wa'il Isma'il; Dr Wahib Tannus; Yusuf al-As'ad; Yusuf al-Ahmad.

The Committee of Control and Inspection is made up of the following comrades: Ghassan Abu Tawq; 'Abd al-Karim Gharim; Riyad Haj Khalil; Nimr al-Haddad; Kamal Hatim.

The Ba'th Party seventh regional congress will hold a final public session at 1800 today. During this session President Hafiz al-Asad will address the people and the Ba'th Party bases on congress activities and its most important resolutions in the various fields.

BA'TH CONGRESS GREETS IRANIAN REVOLUTION COUNCIL

JN061854 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 6 January--At the conclusion of its meetings, the seventh Ba'th Party regional congress addressed a cable to the Revolution Command [as received] Council in Iran. It stressed the congress' appreciation for the Iranian Revolution's stands in its confrontation of Zionism and U.S. imperialism. The congress expressed its support for the friendly Iranian people and their revolution in their battle against the imperialist threats and all attempts to plot against the Iranian Revolution.

Following is the text of the cable:

Tehran, Revolution Command Council

The seventh Ba'th Party regional congress, which was held in Damascus from 22 December 1979 to 5 January 1980, highly evaluates the Iranian Revolution's stands in its confrontation of Zionism and U.S. imperialism, particularly its stand in one trench with the Arab people's struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights.

The congress greets the Iranian Revolution and its brave leadership. It also expresses its support for the friendly Iranian people and their revolution in their battle against the continuous imperialist threats and against all attempts to plot against the Iranian Revolution.

TISHRIN: U.S. PERHAPS PREPARING FOR AGGRESSION IN AREA

JN061122 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 4 Jan 80 pp 8, 11 JN

['Ali as-Siwan article: "This Smokescreen"]

[Excerpts] Has the United States become biased toward Egypt and against Israel? This question should not be posed if the various standards governing relations between the United States and Israel and Egypt are taken into consideration.

However, a report submitted to Begin by an Israeli Foreign Ministry legal expert confirms this opinion. The report Begin received yesterday mentions that the United States "supports the Egyptian viewpoint on the establishment of traditional Palestinian self-rule" which contradicts the Israeli viewpoint on self-rule covering the inhabitants and not the land. Can we separate this report from others which are being disseminated, particularly since Dayan's resignation some months ago?

Certainly not, because reports about a U.S. bias toward Egypt and against Israel are being leaked daily since Dayan resigned from Begin's government, and they allude to the existence of differences between Israel and the United States, even U.S. opposition to Israel.

Because Israel is the principal propagator of these reports the objective behind this propagation is surely a malicious one and aims at letting an old subject cover up for a new and very important subject, thus making the issue of salvaging the Camp David agreements appear secondary.

A U.S. State Department spokesman stated yesterday that his government is studying a joint Israeli-Egyptian proposal for the establishment of U.S. bases in the two countries in order to provide for a quick deployment of U.S. forces in the area. The fact that the proposal is under study does not mean that it will likely be rejected, particularly since a "quick intervention force" of at least 100,000 U.S. soldiers has been formed and a commander appointed.

In light of the developing situation in Iran and Afghanistan in a manner unfavorable to U.S. interests, the United States' primary concern now is to seek more solid alternatives than an axis in which Zionism and Egyptian reaction will be allies. The United States' concern is to achieve a more dynamic role for Israel and Egypt within the framework of a more aggressive U.S. policy in the area.

Therefore, the mere fact that Israel is highlighting the existence of a U.S. bias toward Egypt is intended to be a cover for the real objective of the alliance that exists among the Camp David partners.

We must deduce that the new aggressive U.S. strategy, which calls for the establishment of bases in As-Sadat's Egypt and Israel, is laying the ground for operations against the area far more important than the conspiracies that have been concocted against Syria, the PLO and other countries in the area and which may reach the stage of aggressive operations against all those who might hamper the spread of U.S. influence or against anything that may threaten what Washington terms as its interests.

STUDENT KILLED BY U.S. 'TERRORIST GANGS' BURIED IN SYRIA

JN052116 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 5 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 5 January--The martyr student Na'il ad-Diqir, who was assassinated by terrorist gangs in the United States, was buried in Damascus this afternoon.

The martyr was studying at a school of medicine in the United States. He was assassinated by these gangs while he was at a restaurant with Arab students sympathizing with the Iranian Revolution.

ALGERIA

APS REPORTS SECURITY COUNCIL INACTION ON U.S. DEMANDS

LD061948 Algiers APS in French 1100 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Algiers--During the last week the Iranian-American conflict, the monetary disorder reigning on the international market and the latest crude oil price adjustments decided by the OPEC member countries have been in the forefront of economic news.

On the subject of the 2-month old Iranian-American conflict, the Washington government--using the pretext of a crisis of which it is the sole instigator--hopes to internationalize the problem through the voice of the United Nations by asking its allies to institute an economic blockade against Iran. After freezing Iranian assets in American banks and their European subsidiaries, the Carter administration seems determined to have recourse to all forms of intervention, including military action. However, the Security Council refused to submit to such a demand and has allowed itself a period of reflection while it awaits the results of the visit by Mr Kurt Waldheim, UN secretary general to Tehran, which lasted 3 days.

LIBYA

COOPERATION, TRADE RELATIONS WITH PRC CUT

LD061604 Tripoli JANA in English 1430 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The General People's Congress today adopted a majority recommendation made by local people's congresses calling for cutting off co-operation and trade relations with China.

The decision was taken in view of China's hostile policies toward the Arab nation, the Palestinian cause, the Jamahiriyah and the arms supplies provided to the defeated Egyptian regime after its alliance with Israel and imperialism and the redeployment of its troops on the borders of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

LIBYAN TIES WITH, SUPPORT FOR FATAH ENDED

LD061606 Tripoli JANA in English 1434 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The third session of the General People's Congress has decided on breaking off relations and ending support to "Fatah" in view of the policies of its leadership towards the Palestinian cause, its adoption of capitulationist solutions and attacks on the Great 1 September Revolution and its leadership.

Fatah's leadership had earlier attacked the Great 1 September Revolution in the wake of the speech delivered by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The speech had appealed to Palestinians not to forego [word indistinct] struggle by accepting capitulationist settlements. It called for the continued struggle for liberation and the organisation by Palestinians of people's congresses, revolutionary committees, and a general Palestinian people's congress.

MAURITANIA

COMPOSITION OF NEW MILITARY COMMITTEE REPORTED

LD052227 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Naval Captain Dahhan Ould Ahmed Mahmoud, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and official in charge of the permanent secretariat of the committee, held a press conference today.

At the start he spoke about the reasons which led the committee to carry out a corrective reshuffle of its cadres. Captain Dahhan began by saying:

I greet you. I would like to explain to you the reasons which led to the reshuffle. First allow me to recall that when the armed forces assumed power on 10 July 1978, they committed themselves to achieve peace for the Mauritanian people and to work for economic, financial and social development. In the face of complicated tasks the armed forces carried out certain reforms on 6 April 1979. The action the government took on 1 June 1979 was a step toward the implementation of its preliminary tasks; namely, to bring an end to the war. This action was embodied in the signing of the agreement of 5 August between our country and the POLISARIO. Since then the committee has been devoting its efforts to bring about the supreme objective, namely, economic, financial and social reform in the country.

In order to reach such a major and complicated objective, the Military Committee for National Salvation defined the political trends that would rule its work. Then, finally, it carried out some changes in its political cadres in order to become more suitable for the work necessary to achieve such tasks. Out of its desire to render its work more dynamic and more vital, the military committee rid itself of those members who constituted an obstacle on the path of its work. Thus the Military Committee for National Salvation will work to lead the country, taking it along the path of development and progress.

As the military regime will never hesitate to dispose of those of its members who do not work for the public interest, it will never hesitate to adopt rigorous measures against whomever endeavor to carry out sabotage or do something that is apt to threaten the stability of the country.

The Military Committee for National Salvation addresses an appeal to the active forces of the country to work with enthusiasm in the cause of national construction and to struggle against the foes of national integrity. Everybody should know that Mauritania does not believe that peace can be built with hollow, repeated words. Rather, peace can be built by a common effort, channelled in the same direction under the leadership of the Military Committee for National Salvation.

To a question concerning the possible changes in the executive bodies and if there will still be a prime minister, Captain Dahhan said: I told you that we have changed the cadres to render them more suitable for the task we face. If we felt that we should give the chairmanship of the committee and the post of head of state to the premier, then this means we wanted to render the military committee more effective as the former cadres were not suitable for the task of development.

It is noteworthy that the Military Committee for National Salvation made important changes last night in order to make the political structure more suitable for grave tasks required by economic, financial and administrative reform as well as for consolidating the peace our national leadership has achieved courageously and with determination. So the Military Committee for National Salvation has been formed as follows:

Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, head of state and premier: Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Heydalla.

Permanent Members:

Lt Col Manouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya
Lt Col Ahmadou Ould Abdallah
Lt Col Dia Amadou
Maj Yall Abdoulaye
Maj Molaye Ould Boukhreiss
Maj Anne Amadou Babaly

Reserve Members:

Maj Soumare Silman
Maj Mohamed Sidina Ould Sidiya
Capt Ahmed Ould Mennih
Capt Cheikh Sid'ahmed Ould Babamine
Capt Diop Abdoullaye
Capt Mohamed Ould Lekhal
Capt Mohamed Vall Ould (Lemrabott)
Naval Captain Dahhan Ould Ahmed Mahmoud

Purpose of Changes

AB060802 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 5 Jan 80 AB

[Summary] Following the changes which occurred yesterday within the Military Committee of National Salvation, Lt Ahmed Mahmoud, the officer in charge of the committee's headquarters, this morning held a press conference during which he explained the reasons for the changes as well as the objectives being aimed at. Lt Ahmed Mahmoud said: [begin recording]

"On assuming power, the national armed forces promised to bring peace to the Mauritania people and to place them on the path of economic, financial and social development." "The efforts made by the government set up on 1 June 1979 enabled us to achieve the first of these objectives. The agreement concluded between our country and the POLISARIO Front on 5 August put a stop to the war, and the Military Committee of National Salvation then tackled the second objective. That is, our country's economic, financial and social recovery. To be able to perform this difficult task correctly, the Military Committee of National Salvation first of all defined the political orientations which were to guide its actions. It has just changed its political structure in order to make it more operational and more adapted to this task."

Moreover, the committee decided to make itself more dynamic; it therefore deemed it essential to dismiss the members who hindered its action. The military regime will not engage in witch-hunting but just as it did not hesitate to remove those members who impeded its progress, it will also not hesitate to take drastic measures whenever necessary. "The Military Committee of National Salvation appeals to all the active elements of the nation to support its action. It appeals to all to work very hard for national reconstruction and to combat the enemies of national unity."

[Question] "What are the changes to be made at the level of the executive? Will there still be a prime minister?

[Answer] "Oh no! As I have just told you, we have changed the structure in order to adapt it better to the mission we have assigned to ourselves. We therefore deemed it necessary to reshuffle, I mean, we decided to entrust the post of prime minister to the chairman of the committee." [end recording]

The armed forces movement has just reaffirmed its patriotism and firm determination to continue its action for national recovery in order to safeguard the country's interests and fulfill the people's aspirations. "The scope of the changes which occurred yesterday within the Military Committee of National Salvation is not confined only to the modification of structures or to the changing of persons. On the contrary, we have reached a decisive turning point which will considerably mark the entire life of the country." "The time for hesitation and beating about the bush is now over."

FOREIGN MINISTER ISSUES STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD041350 Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 4 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Nouakchott, Jan 4 (MAP)--Mauritania is worried about the events that are occuring in Afghanistan, stated a communique issued by the Mauritanian Foreign Affairs Minister.

"Mauritania", said the communique, "feels that it is question of an affair extremely serious, which endangers the future of the Afghan people and its legitimate aspirations, such as the free choice of a political regime".

The communique added that Mauritania denounces any interference in other countries internal affairs".

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA TO DISCUSS AFGHANISTAN

LD052038 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mohammed Boucetta left Morocco this evening for Saudi Arabia. In a statement at Rabat's Sale airport the minister explained the purpose of his visit as follows:

[Begin Boucetta recording] This visit to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom falls within the framework of constant consultations between the two kingdoms. God willing, I will be carrying with me a message from His Majesty King Hassan II, may god Grant his victory, to His Exalted Majesty King Khalid ibn and al-'Aziz and other Saudi officials.

We will hold consultations on the recent developments in our Islamic world, particularly the events in Afghanistan. These events are very important because of the open interference in the affairs of an Islamic state. This interference has aroused great concern not only in the Islamic world but in the world at large. This matter has been the topic of discussion at a recent meeting held under the chairmanship of the king. His majesty, may God grant his victory, gave us his instructions.

The cabinet also held a meeting yesterday to discuss the issue. Contacts were made with all the Islamic countries through their ambassadors in Rabat--both Arabs and non-Arabs--all the Islamic countries.

The king has decided to send a delegation to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and some other Islamic countries. [end recording]

Mohamed Boucetta was seen off by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abderrahmane Baddou, the ministry's secretary general Abdelaziz Bennani, and the head of the Arab Affairs desk and the chief of protocol at the ministry.

SUDAN

SUDAN CALLS ON USSR TO WITHDRAW FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN

JN061500 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 6 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 6 January--Sudan has called on the Soviet Union to immediately withdraw its forces from Afghanistan so that Afghanistan will have the appropriate conditions to make decisions about its affairs by itself.

The statement came in the Sudanese Government's reply to a memorandum which was delivered by the USSR ambassador in Khartoum to the Sudanese Foreign Ministry on 18 December 1979. The USSR ambassador was informed of the Sudanese memo today when he was summoned by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Mr Uthman.

Student Demonstration

JN051506 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 5 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 5 January--Secondary school students staged a noisely demonstration in 'Atbarah this morning. During the demonstration, which moved along the main streets of the city, students denounced Soviet military interference in Afghanistan and burned a Soviet flag in the main square.

The students called on the government to support Muslim revolutionaries in Afghanistan against the Soviet invasion.

AUTHORITIES DISCLOSE EXISTENCE OF ANTI-ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION

NC051650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Khartoum, 5 January--Sudanese state security authorities have disclosed the existence of a secret organization working against Islam and calling for apostasy. The organization is directed by a Swiss doctor and has a center in Khartoum.

The Sudanese paper AS-SAHAFAH reports that the organization is headquartered in Basle, Switzerland, and is directed by the German orientalist (Walter Freeman), who was a professor at the American University of Beirut.

AS-SAHAFAH says that the center in Khartoum was raided last week after its activities had been monitored. It adds that 200,000 books attacking and calling for the renunciation of Islam were found in the center. The books include "The Balance of Right" [Mizan al-Haqq] and the "Enlightenment of Understanding from the Sources of Islam" [Tanwir al-Ifham Min Masadir al-Islam]. Some of the books attack the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him salvation.

The paper says that recording and printing equipment and anti-Islamic taped statements were discovered. It adds that the organization was able to deceive some naive people and make them renounce their religion by making them tempting offers.

Quoting Sudanese security authorities, the paper says that the center, which was called the youth center, has finally been closed down and that legal measures will be adopted concerning its hard currency funds in the banks. It adds that the authorities seized a letter that the orientalist (Walter Freeman) had sent to the director of the center in Khartoum urging him to intensify his activities to check the Islamic tide.

TUNISIA

LEADERS SEND PLO'S 'ARAFAT, QADDUMI ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

LD011420 Tunis TAP in English 1342 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Jan 1st, 1980 (TAP)--On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution, President Bourguiba sent to Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, a greeting message in which he prayed God that the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people aimed at recovering freedom and dignity may be blessed.

Premier Hedi Nouira sent a similar message to Mr Yasir 'Arafat. As for Mr Mohamed Fitouri, foreign minister, he sent a greeting message to Mr Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN ARMY ATTACKS MOROCCAN FORCES 2 JAN

LD051134 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, liberated territory--The Saharan People's Liberation Army on 2 January attacked Moroccan forces stationed at Hagunia, 100 km northeast of El Aauin. The Saharan statement said that this operation resulted in losses in the ranks of the royal forces amounting to 17 soldiers killed and a large number of wounded. It also resulted in material losses represented in the destruction of 15 mechanized vehicles and 12 guns of various calibers. The statement added that the Saharan army captured 10 military personnel, including 4 sergeants, and captured a significant quantity of weapons and 2 telecommunications sets.

5 Jan Fighting

LD061548 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Within the context of the Hawwari Bumadyan offensive, the Saharan fighters laid an ambush yesterday for the Moroccan invading forces some 10 km south of Hagounie and clashed with them in a fierce battle lasting more than 4 hours.

The Saharan forces inflicted heavy losses on the invading Moroccan forces, killing more than 152 soldiers and wounding a large number of others, while destroying a huge quantity of military equipment. They also captured a landrover, five trucks, two 106 heavy cannons, three machineguns, two [words indistinct] peace, three projectiles, 34 rifles, 10 radios and a large quantity of ammunition.

In the same battle the Saharan army captured 35 Moroccan soldiers, one with the rank of captain, named (Mazzari N. abd al-Malik), and a number of NCO's.

BEGIN LEAVES FOR EGYPT; MAKES REMARKS AT AIRPORT

TA070757 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0747 GMT 7 Jan 80 TA

[Statement and press conference given by Prime Minister Menahem Begin at Ben-Gurion Airport before his departure for Egypt--live]

[Text] [Begin] Good morning, I am leaving for my ninth meeting with President as-Sadat and it is the fifth since the signing of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. We do not have a prearranged agenda. It can be assumed, in view of the situation, that we will discuss the mutual relations between Israel and Egypt as well as the regional and international issues.

I would like to thank President as-Sadat for allowing my companions and myself to see the wonders of the old Egyptian culture in Aswan, in addition to the talks that we will be conducting.

[Rafi Reshef, IDF radio] Mr Prime Minister, were you surprised by the reports of a U.S. intention to make use of one of Egypt's air bases?

[Answer] I was not concerned by this report and it is quite possible that there is some truth in it. We do not know any details, but I believe that the State Department spokesman's remarks to the effect that--in view of the serious developments in our region--especially the events in Iran and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan--the United States will ask for the use of installations in Egypt, Israel and other countries where appropriate. In view of the international situation this is quite natural.

[Reshef] Do you view this as damaging to the normalization process?

[Answer] The normalization process is 26 January. [as received] That is to say, according to the peace treaty it is to become valid after we reach the Al-'Arish Ra's Muhammad line and a month later, on 26 February, there is to be an exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt. Egypt has already appointed its ambassador. We have a candidate for ambassador, as everyone knows, my friend Dr Ben-Elisar. But upon my return from Egypt I intend to officially propose that the Cabinet appoint him and then, just as Egypt has asked for our approval of its ambassador, we will ask for Egypt's agreement to our ambassador.

[Menashe Raz, IDF radio] Mr Begin, did the Israeli Government know that the Egyptians were providing the Americans with military services when Israel had proposed the same thing to the Americans?

[Answer] I am not used to reporting on what the Israel Government did or did not know and I ask that you draw your own conclusions on the answer to this question. [Begin repeats his opening remarks for the benefit of English speaking correspondents at which point the live coverage returned to the studio at 0751 GMT]

BEGIN TO EMPHASIZE BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES IN EGYPT

TA061026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Tomorrow in Egypt Prime Minister Begin will raise problems pertaining to the normalization of relations, especially economic problems. The industry minister told our correspondent Yosi Melman that it is not at all clear to Israel how the Egyptians want to develop economic relations, and Mr Begin will as President As-Sadat for clarification.

Minister Pat said that as far as Israel is concerned we will emphasize the possibilities of marketing products from Israel in Egypt as well as developing joint projects. The energy minister, when he goes to Egypt this week to conclude the oil supply issue, will also discuss joint economic development.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES EGYPTIAN AIRBASE PUT AT DISPOSAL OF U.S.

TA062003 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Egypt has put a large airbase at the disposal of the United States. Our correspondent has learned that preparation of the base is already at an advanced stage. Here is our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir's report from the studio:

With expeditious activity in the air and on the ground under a cloak of complete secrecy, a large American airbase is being prepared in the heart of Egypt. This base will give the Americans the ability to rapidly intervene in Saudi Arabia and in the Persian Gulf states if and when the need arises. As far as Washington is concerned, this is a lesson learned from the events in Iran and Afghanistan. As for Cairo, the unprecedented consent to such a base is undoubtedly an inseparable part of the large arms deal with the United States, a deal that will, within a few years, make the Egyptian Army into a perfectly equipped modern Western army.

As for Israel, it seems to be a most conspicuous fact that, while Jerusalem has recently been heaping on Washington declarations of readiness to grant bases for U.S. planes and vessels, such a process is underway in Egypt without our neighbor--Cairo--or our traditional ally--the United States--finding it necessary to report these activities to Jerusalem.

Israel learned of this development via other channels. High-level Israeli security experts say: It seems that those who thought that the events in Iran and Afghanistan would generate a new strategic dialog between Jerusalem and Washington were wrong. As far as the Israeli requests for aid or the offers of bases are concerned, the dialog has now begun, more and more, to resemble a monologue. Gradually, the new U.S. assessment of the Middle East is being revealed: An increasing reliance on a group of Muslim Arab anti-communist states, a group that has to be strengthened and consolidated, for which reason the profile of U.S.-Israeli relations must remain low.

LABOR PARTY CRITICIZES OFFER OF U.S. BASES IN ISRAEL

TA061327 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The Labor Party says that the series of offers by the prime minister and defense minister for the Americans to establish military bases in Israel without a request, is an expression of the amateurishness characterizing the government in all its actions. A statement by the Labor Party's reactions team says that these suggestions only embarrass the Americans and can damage international relations and Israel.

MA'ARIV Reports Comment

TA041148 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By Yosef Wacheman]

[Excerpt] Making naval and air bases available to the U.S. military will turn Israel into a U.S. ally on the basis of an agreement for mutual military aid, if necessary. This was stated last night by senior political elements in Jerusalem.

These elements noted that the transfer of bases to the United States will, in fact, incorporate Israel into NATO's network. Israel's position, therefore, will be similar to that of other Western countries and that have placed their bases at the disposal of the Americans.

CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS ON AFGHANISTAN ISSUE

TA041544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 4 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said the Soviet invasion into Afghanistan is creating a new situation which is likely to change the deployment of the superpowers and their involvement in the Middle East. The Russians have occupied a country by force and they are now endangering the delicate balance between the West and East around the sources of oil, the chief of staff said. He added that it is difficult to make assessments, but a change is sure to come, even if, at the present time, it is difficult to pinpoint it. The chief of staff was giving a lecture at the commerce and industry club at Z.O.A. house in Tel Aviv.

COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORTS SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

TA062009 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The RAKAH Political Bureau today expressed support for Soviet involvement in Afghanistan. A communique released this evening says that the Soviets are extending assistance to the Afghan nation and that the Soviet actions in Afghanistan are for the sake of world peace and security.

MAPAM CONVENTION ENDORSES POLITICAL PLATFORM

TA051245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Jan 80 TA

[Text] This morning, the MAPAM convention endorsed, by a large majority, the political portion of the party's plan calling on the government to immediately cease settlement activity in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and to dismantle the Gush Emumim settlements in the heart of Arab populated areas.

Among other things, MAPAM favors--according to the proposal which has been endorsed--basing the political solution on the existence of two independent, sovereign countries: Israel on the one hand and a Jordanian-Palestinian state on the other.

The convention also endorsed, by a large majority and with the objection of only two members, a decision authorizing the party center to decide on MAPAM's joining the Socialist International.

MINISTER SHARON DEPARTS FOR EUROPE

TA062113 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 6 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon left this evening on a visit to Europe. He said the purpose of his trip was to visit a number of AGREXCO [Agricultural Export Company] posts and examine the situation regarding the consumers of Israel's agricultural exports. He said he intended to investigate whether Israel is receiving appropriate prices for its agricultural produce and whether higher prices could be set.

He also said he would soon have to make a journey to the EEC institutions in Brussels and hold talks with Europe's agriculture ministers.

NO W. BANK LAND SOLD TO JEWS DESPITE CABINET DECISION

TA061143 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[By 'Amos Levav]

[Text] No land deals have been concluded in Judaea and Samaria since the Cabinet decided to permit Jews to buy land in the territories.

The decision was made about 6 months ago and aroused indignation throughout the world. Later, the military government issued internal directives explaining how Israelis could purchase the lands, but these have so far been frozen due to differences of opinion within the military government.

The Bassam ash-Shak'ah affair has also united the Arab inhabitants of the territories to a large extent, and the threats against those who cooperate--be they real estate agents or Jewish elements in general--have increased. A real estate agent told MA'ARIV last night that contrary to previous experience, now the landowners (interested in selling their property but afraid) ask him not to come to their village. Instead they meet with him in secret in the large towns and simply beg, fearfully, that he not come to their villages and visit them. Prior to the Cabinet's decision, the agents used to come freely to the homes of the landowners as well, even if, ultimately, the deals were not carried out.

The complex process of buying land in the territories, involving a lot of red tape and great risk, has caused a total freeze on land deals in the territories. "The Cabinet's decision has achieved the opposite [of what it wanted]; the Cabinet had intended to permit the sale of land in the territories, but instead their action has stopped the sale of land that had been going on until then," the dealer said last night.

The only deals that have been recently completed were in the area of the village of Rujay near Elon More. In these deals, resources described by real estate agents as "huge," were put in and severe political pressure was applied to the landowners. These deals, even though completed, have still not been registered with the land registrar. The reason for this may be the fear that the identity of the landowners who have sold their lands will thus be revealed and their lives will be endangered.

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DOWN--During the third quarter of 1979, production in industrial units employing hired labor has gone down by 4 percent as compared with the second quarter of 1979. The diamond sector was an exception. However, there was a 1-percent increase in the second quarter of 1979 as compared with the first quarter of that year. This has been reported by the spokesman for the Central Bureau of Statistics in Jerusalem. The decline in production in the third quarter of 1979 involved most of the industrial sectors. The most drastic declines were marked in the following sectors: leather and leather products (17 percent) electrical and electronic equipment (15 percent); wood and wood products (9 percent), basic metals (7 percent) and machinery (6 percent). As compared with the same period of 1978, in the first 9 months of 1979 the number of employees hired by industry rose by 4 percent and their nominal daily wages went up by approximately 79 percent. During the same period the consumer price index rose by 68 percent. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jan 80 p 3 TA]

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT OBJECTS TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL INTERFERENCE

LD041814 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The information department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that the following telegram has been sent by Shah Mohammad Dost, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan foreign minister, to the president of the UN Security Council in New York:

His excellency the president of the UN Security Council, New York: Incoming reports indicate that some countries are trying to convene the Security Council and discuss the situation in Afghanistan. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regards such steps as direct interference in Afghan internal affairs and seriously objects to it.

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS AMBASSADORS OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES

LD041913 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The information department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs report that Shah Mohammad Dost met with a number of ambassadors from friendly countries yesterday at 1500 local time at the Foreign Ministry in Kabul.

The foreign minister at this meeting explained the new phase of the glorious Sawr Revolution, which has been initiated with the will of our noble and toiling people of Afghanistan, the leadership of the United People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and by the liberating army of Afghanistan.

The foreign minister, in the course of explaining the new phase of democratic Afghan society, the overthrow of the fascist and terroristic band of Hafizollah Amin, and the overthrow of the CIA, which has been sent to its dark grave, spoke about the legitimate and fraternal assistance of the USSR based on the treaty of friendship, goodneighborliness and cooperation signed in 1978 between the two countries. The assistance is in accordance with the UN Charter and nonalined principles.

Shah Mohammad Dost pointed out to the ambassadors of friendly countries interference by the imperialist forces, headed by American imperialism, who has joined hands with the reactionaries of the region in an unholy alliance. The foreign minister told the ambassadors that the progressive forces in the country, both state and nonstate, national organizations and progressive forces are prepared to foil any kind of conspiracies or coups by the reactionaries and imperialist against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The foreign minister assured the ambassadors of the friendly countries that all our people, representing all strata and classes, are prepared to defend the objectives of the Sawr Revolution and the integrity and territorial sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan until the last drop of their blood.

GREETINGS FROM HEADS OF STATE TO KARMAL REPORTED

JN041905 [Editorial Report JN] Kabul International Service in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 4 January 1980 reports that the Foreign Ministry's information department says that on the occasion of the election of Babrak Karmal as the secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, messages of congratulations have been received from the following:

A message signed by Le Duan, secretary general of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee;

A message signed by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party; Pal Losonczi, president of the presidential council of the Hungarian People's Republic; and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers;

A message signed by Erich Honecker, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany;

A message signed by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the PDRY Supreme Peoples Council Presidium, and PDRY Council of Ministers chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

PAP CORRESPONDENT REPORTS COMPOSITION, AIMS OF GOVERNMENT

LD042256 Warsaw PAP in English 2125 GMT 4 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, 4 Jan, PAP--(By PAP correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz):

The striving of the new leadership of the Afghan revolution to restore and consolidate the unity of the country's progressive forces manifested itself in the composition of the new government of Afghanistan. Among the 11 members of the cabinet are both representatives of the old Parcham wing of the People's Democratic Party which was led by Babrak Karmal, the present prime minister and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan and representatives of the Khalq wing which was led by the late Nur Mohammad Taraki, the founder of the party overthrown by Hafizollah Amin.

Almost all the members of the new cabinet are former ministers of the first people's democratic government formed after the victorious revolution of April 1978. There are only two new figures--Faiz Mohammad, minister of border areas and tribal affairs and Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of trade, both of whom were members of the government formed after 1973 overthrowing of monarchy by Mohammad Daud and his radical allies in which they represented the progressive forces of Afghanistan.

Kabul Radio appealed to the people to unite round the new leadership of the revolution.

KABUL RADIO ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

LD051746 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] has issued the following announcement concerning political prisoners:

On 28 December 1979 Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council and prime minister, made a speech which contained the DRA manifesto on political prisoners. He said: On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the PDPA, and on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council, allow me to announce a total amnesty for all political prisoners who have survived the Amin's bloody reign of terror. They will be freed without regard to class, religion, tribe, language, nationality or any political difference.

In accordance with this manifesto, we bring to the notice of our dear countrymen that tomorrow, at 1000, the doors of the bloody and dark Pole Cherkhi prison will be opened to the political prisoners.

The number of those who have survived the murderous Amin regime is about 2073. Included in this total are members of the clergy, intellectuals, workers, peasants, artisans, traders and businessmen. Tens of thousands of other political prisoners have perished at Amin's hands and have been buried in ditches dug by tractors in various parts of Pol Cherkhi. The prisoners to be released tomorrow, of course, are separate from the 2,000 PDPA members and other compatriots who were released a few days ago.

The release of these political prisoners does not include (84) prisoners who are related to the Maiwandwal [prime minister of Afghanistan in the 1960's] band, members of the royal family and a number of other people. According to the announcement of total amnesty, these latter people will be given a fair trial and their destiny resolved.

There are also 15 Pakistani political prisoners in the Pole Cherkhi prison, whose cases will be resolved through diplomatic channels with Pakistani authorities.

Similarly, there are 18 political prisoners who were closely related to Hafizollah Amin. These too, after an investigation and a trial, will learn their fate.

The Pole Cherkhi prison is open through its proper authority to reporters and those who wish to inspect it.

Dear countrymen, tomorrow at 1000 the political prisoners in Kabul are to be freed. It is worth mentioning that in the provinces, more than a 1,000 political prisoners have been freed and the day for the release of the remaining prisoners there will be announced in the next 3 or 4 days.

We congratulate the families of the political prisoners on their release. Long live freedom.

Prisoner Release

LD061808 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] In accordance with the historic speech by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the United People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister on 28 December 1979, and in accordance with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] government's announcement, a number of political prisoners who have survived the dagger of terror wielded by Hafizollah Amin, the most professional killer of history, were released from the frightening cells of the Pole Charkhi general prison during a ceremony today and left for their homes full of joy and hope. The total number of political prisoners who were released today from the Pole Charkhi general prison is about 2,000 religious leaders, intellectuals, workers, farmers, tradesmen, professionals, national capitalists and other toilers.

BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY correspondents report that tens of thousands of our compatriots went to Pole Charkhi this morning to receive their relatives, who were put in dark prisons because of trumped up charges by Amin and his band. They held a large meeting and were counting the minutes until the release of their relatives.

Prior to the release of the political prisoners, Nezamoddin Tahzib, [minister of border affairs under Tarak], who was himself a prisoner in Pole Charkhi, made a speech in the presence of a number of the PDPA cadres about the cruelties and brutalities of Hafizollah Amin, this agent of American imperialism, and his fascist regime. He said: Never before in its history has our beloved and ancient nation witnessed such criminal acts and killings and shall never do so again.

He said: Hafizollah Amin, this savage butcher and subservient spy of American imperialism, in order to prolong his fascist and dictatorial regime, martyred in a very brutal and callous manner thousands of our compatriots including intellectuals, religious leaders, farmers, workers, members of the PDPA and many other toilers, and brought daily tragedies to our compatriots and toiling people.

Tahzib made a lengthy speech on the misdeeds of Amin's rotten regime. He said: The great journey along the path of the great Sawr Revolution put an end to the oppressive and terrorist regime of this well-known butcher, and opened the way to immunity, prosperity and progress for the long-suffering people of Afghanistan.

At the end of Nezamoddin Tahzib's speech, Minister of Interior Said Mohammad Gulabzoi opened the gates of the prison to much applause and the shouting of slogans. The welcomers shed tears of joy when they saw their prisoners.

AFP REPORTS ON CONTINUED FIGHTING IN COUNTRYSIDE

4 Jan Report

BK041245 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[By Jim Wolf]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 4 Jan (AFP)--Soviet troops in Afghanistan were reported today to be extending their control throughout the rugged countryside, digging in for a prolonged occupation and encountering only limited resistance from Muslim guerrillas.

Reports reaching here from the Afghan capital Kabul said the Soviets had been ferrying troops and equipment by air to key provincial centers in a bid to crush the resistance, part of a 20-month old guerrilla war against successive Marxist administration in Kabul.

Air landings were reported at Jalalabad in the east near the border with Pakistan, Herat in the west near Iran and Kandahar in the south. An unconfirmed report said fighting in Kandahar had pitted the Soviets against the guerrillas, possibly fighting side-by-side with dissident Afghan Army units.

Kabul itself, where the Soviet presence has been reduced in the past few days after consolidating the Dec 27 Moscow-engineered coup, was reported calm by day, tense by night with sporadic bursts of automatic fire punctuating the quiet. Although the Soviet presence in the capital has been thinned out, apparently to reinforce garrisons in the provinces, Soviets were said to be still guarding key installations such as the radio station and presidential palace.

Western analysts estimate the armed Soviet presence in Afghanistan at 35,000-40,000 men, with an equal number massed along the Soviet-Afghan border, poised to intervene. The Afghan Army, which may have once numbered up to 80,000 men, is still reportedly confined to barracks, disarmed, dispirited and plagued by a high rate of desertion.

At Torkham, on the Afghan-Pakistani border, a Pakistani source said Muslim guerrillas and rebel Afghan soldiers had battled Soviet troops last night at Jalalabad, Afghanistan's fourth city with about 25,000 people.

Other reports reaching Pakistan suggested the emergence of fierce resistance to the Soviets from a web of Muslim guerrillas, Afghan soldiers and the population at large.

Battle for Herat

NC041700 Paris AFP in English 1651 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Islamabad, 4 Jan (AFP)--Afghan rebels and dissident Afghan Army soldiers have taken control of the provincial capital of Herat in western Afghanistan but the city is surrounded by Soviet troops, rebels sources said here today.

An undisclosed number of Soviet troops had been killed in the battle for the city, according to these reports that have yet to receive independent confirmation.

Herat, about 120 kms (72 miles) from the Iranian border, was the scene of a brutally repressed uprising last spring. Thousands or people reportedly lost their lives when an anti-government revolt was quashed.

The rebel sources based their reports on information gathered from several other sources. The rebel sources also spoke of fighting in the Panshir and Logghar valleys respectively north and south of the Afghan capital of Kabul in the east of the country. In the past, Afghan Government troops have pushed back attacks in these two valleys.

5 Jan Report

BK051108 Hong Kong AFP in English 0926 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[By Jim Wolf]

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Jan (AFP)--Night letters calling for resistance to Soviet troops in Afghanistan have begun appearing in the capital Kabul and several Russian soldiers have been shot there, reports reaching here said today.

At the same time, reports said all major Afghan towns and military bases now appeared to be in the grip of the Soviets, who poured into the country massively last week to set the stage for the 27 December coup that moved Kabul firmly into the Soviet orbit.

The reports, from highly reliable sources, said the covertly distributed night letters, known as shabnam in Urdu, had turned up on Thursday calling for demonstrations the next day against the Soviet Union and President Babrak Karmal, who seized power in the coup that killed his predecessor, Hafizollah Amin.

Although the demonstration had not occurred, the appearance of the anti-Soviet tracts lent credence to the reported shootings or individual Russians and groups of soldiers in the Kabul area, which remains largely cut off to the outside, with telephone and Telex lines still down.

But diplomatic sources in New Delhi, discounting reports of fierce fighting said to be raging around several key Afghan towns, said insurgent activity appeared to have been minimal and scattered since the arrival of the Soviets, now thought to number up to 50,000 men inside Afghanistan with up to 40,000 more massed across the joint Afghan-Soviet border.

There was evidence that some Afghan divisions had expressed loyalty to the new regime and other indications there had been a high rate of desertion in some units. Most Afghan units were still reportedly confined to barracks, disarmed and considered incapable or putting up any real resistance to the Soviets.

Meanwhile, reports reaching here from Pakistan, which also shares a border with Afghanistan, said resistance was jelling among Muslim guerrillas, who have been fighting successive Marxist administrations in Kabul since the first was installed in April 1978.

The Pakistani reports said the strongest resistance had occurred in the northeastern province of Badakshah, bordering the Soviet Union, where Soviet paratroops were said to have been dropped. They said the resistance came from a web of Muslim insurgents, ordinary civilians and deserting Afghan soldiers who were passing their weapons to the rebels rather than be disarmed.

An unconfirmed report said the new Afghan authorities were planning to scrap the old Afghan flag, red in colour since the coup 20 months ago that swung Afghanistan away from the West, and replace it with one of green and red, symbolic of Islam and revolution.

In another development, the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi resumed issuing visas to foreign reporters, a small army of whom have been waiting here for them.

Further Reports on Situation

NC051816 Paris AFP in English 1800 GMT 5 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Undated, 5 Jan (AFP)--Intense fighting between Soviet forces and Afghan Moslem rebels was continuing today around the northwest Afghan city of Herat, a spokesman for the Iran-based Afghan Moslem group Jamiat Islami reported.

The spokesman, contacted by telephone in Mashad, northeastern Iran, said that a large contingent of Soviet troops inside Herat was attempting to secure control of the city, a major Afghan crossroads about 120 kms (72 miles) from the Iranian border. An estimated several dozen Soviet tanks and armored vehicles near Herat were reportedly preparing to head toward the Afghan Army base in Farah, 200 kms (120 miles) to the south, he added.

In Islamabad, Hezbi Islami, another major Afghan rebel group reported that some of the troops at the Afghan base in Orgun near the Pakistan border had turned over their weapons, including 40 armored vehicles and 32 trucks, to Moslem mojahedin guerrillas, who shot down two planes.

The Pakistani press also reported today that Soviet paratroopers had been dropped into Bamian, the major town in the mountainous Hazarajat region in central Afghanistan.

At the Pakistani-Afghan border post of Torkham, two French citizens who witnessed the coup told AFP today upon arrival there that although Kabul has been calm since December 30, the Soviet troops have retrenched outside of Kabul near the main routes into the capital.

The witnesses reported seeking "impressive numbers" of light armored vehicles and cannons as they left Kabul, and said they had been checked seven times, including two body searches, as they traveled over the 225 km (135 mile) stretch of road linking Kabul to the border.

The searches were carried out by Afghan soldiers and some civilians, they said, adding that they had not seen a single Soviet soldier on the road approaching Torkham and that the Afghan troops based in Jalalabad were camped near the airport and did not appear to be on alert.

This account differed from rebel reports indicating continued resistance in Nangharar province near Jalalabad, and other scattered regions throughout Afghanistan. However, these reports could not be verified.

INDIAN SOURCE SAYS CHINESE TRAINING GUERRILLAS

TA051625 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 5 Jan 80 TA

[From "World News"]

[Excerpt] Diplomatic sources in India say the Chinese started training and arming a guerrilla force in Badakhshan Province in the northeast. A BBC correspondent says negotiations are taking place between the rival rebel groups in the Pakistani city of Peshawar to try and form a united front, but the rebel leaders are bitterly divided over who should be in overall charge.

BANGLADESH

AFP REPORTS ANTI-SOVIET DEMONSTRATIONS IN DACCA

BK041534 Hong Kong AFP in English 1455 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, 4 Jan (AFP)--Hundreds of protesting Muslims broke windows and damaged two vehicles at the Soviet cultural center here this afternoon before dispersing in clouds of teargas fired by riot police.

The demonstration, joined by thousands of others following a weekly prayer meeting at Dacca's biggest mosque, was staged by eight rightist political parties to show opposition to Soviet military action in Afghanistan.

Demonstrators shouted anti-Soviet slogans criticizing Soviet social imperialism and demanding that Moscow "stop killing our Muslim brethren" in Afghanistan and warning "agents of Russia and India." The parties included the Muslim League, Jamiat-E-Islam and the Islamic Democratic League.

Elsewhere in Dacca, about 150 students demonstrated in front of the office of the pro-Moscow Communist Party, CPB, burning effigies of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin.

Demonstrators belonging to the leftist student organization Chhatra League Pradhan group threw projectiles at the building but were prevented from entering it by helmeted police. The office had issued a statement earlier supporting the Soviet action.

Meanwhile, a visit here today by Mahmood A. Hardon, Pakistan's minister for interior, religion, minority and political affairs, was postponed, it was learned.

MINISTER CALLS FOR ORDERLY PURSUIT OF POLITICAL AIMS

BK061022 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Minister for Home Affairs Mustafizur Rahman has appealed to the people and political parties to maintain law and order while pursuing political objectives. In a statement in Dacca yesterday he said that the government is determined to take all positive steps to assure democracy in accordance with the wishes of the people. He said that the people and the political parties will obviously express their feeling through meetings and demonstrations anywhere in the country but it was the responsibility of every conscious citizen not to damage any public property [words indistinct] while doing so. The much desired democracy of the masses would be achieved through [word indistinct] process and any indiscipline would stand in the way of the forces of peace and tranquility, he said.

The home minister said that the government is dutybound not to allow anybody to disrupt peace and frustrate democracy in the name of (?religion).

INDIA

DELHI REPORTS SINGH LETTER TO CARTER ON AFGHAN SITUATION

BK041632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, has urged the U.S. President, Mr Carter, not to look at the situation in Afghanistan only from a military point of view, but to view such developments in the larger perspective of the need for stability and peace in the region. In a letter to President Carter, Mr Charan Singh also emphasized India's concern over intervention by any country in the internal developments of another.

The letter delivered at the White House yesterday was in reply to the U.S. President's communication about the developments in Afghanistan and allied matters.

Mr Charan Singh took note of the concern expressed by President Carter about these. He, however, expressed reservations and doubts about the reported U.S. intention to increase supply of arms to Pakistan in this context. Mr Charan Singh emphasized that competitive induction of arms into the region would only heighten tensions and contribute to instability and a concern for security and peace in the region.

43 PERSONS ARRESTED IN BOMBAY NEAR SOVIET CONSULATE

BK050410 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Bombay, 43 persons were taken into custody for defying prohibitory orders near the Soviet consulate. The arrested persons include Afghan nationals, volunteers of the Hindustani Andolan [Indian movement] and members of the student's Islamic movement in India.

In Baramula near Srinagar, about 1,000 people belonging to the Kashmir Jamiat-E-Islami [Party] demonstrated in front of the UN observers office in protest against the Soviet action in Afghanistan. The demonstrators presented to the observer a memorandum addressed to the UN secretary general.

MASS PROTESTS AGAINST SOVIET TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

BK060448 Hong Kong AFP in English 1742 GMT 5 Jan 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Jan (AFP)--Mass protest continued for the second day today in Indian-held Kashmir against the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Reporters said supporters of the Jamiat-E-Islami took out a procession in Kashmir's summer capital of Srinagar shouting anti-Soviet slogans. They later dispersed peacefully.

A 1,000-strong crowd staged a similar protest before the United Nations military observers' office at the Kashmir border town of Baramullah on Friday.

Meanwhile Janata Party spokesman Surendra Mohan said in New Delhi that his party was opposed to the Soviet intervention and would initiate diplomatic moves for its removal as well as against the resultant U.S. decision to supply arms to Pakistan if it was returned to power in the current polls concluding tomorrow.

The Soviet action was also condemned by the official Congress Party, a partner in the present ruling alliance, its general secretary Banka Bihari said.

THE TIMES OF INDIA ON SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

BK070157 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 Jan 80 p 8 BK

[Editorial: "Soviet Designs"]

[Text] It is clear from the nature of the Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan that the Russians are determined to tighten their hold on that country in order to bring it firmly within the Soviet orbit of influence. They were apprehansive when Mr. Hafizollah Amin toppled Mr. Taraki in September last year and Mr. Amin, no less fearful of them, appears to have sought to take a relatively more independent stance on a number of things, notably the widespread and fairly successful Islamic dissident insurgency, allegedly aided by Pakistan, against his regime.

Had Mr. Amin, who was scheduled to meet the Pakistani foreign minister, Mr. Aga Shahi, at the very end of 1979, been allowed to pursue his (in Soviet eyes) wayward course, he would have been jeopardising Soviet gains in Afghanistan not only since April 1978, when the extent of Soviet penetration became manifest in the first Marxist-led coup that ousted President Daud, but also long before than, in fact ever since the Soviet began to be influential in Afghanistan's armed forces through encouraging President Daud to depend on them for military assistance. That their blatant imposition of their will on the people of Afghanistan would provoke (as it has provoked) international criticism, possibly endanger detente and revive the cold war with the U.S. and even encourage the latter, already in a mood of frustrated belligerence over the continuing incarceration of American hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran; to act no less aggressively wherever it felt its interests were threatened, evidently counts for less with the Russians than the near-certainty of winning what may well be permanent control of a country bordering the Soviet Union and of invaluable strategic significance to it.

But while the Russians have forced their will on Afghanistan in utter contempt of international law and morality, for how long will they be able to hold that turbulent country down through the repression of an occupation force with only the tiniest figleaf of popular legitimacy (if that) in the shape of the support of an indigenous leadership against which at least a substantial section of the people is in revolt? It is on the cards that the Americans will now come to the aid of the Islamic dissidents, something which they have not done so far. President Carter has already ordered the expeditious delivery of massive arms aid to Pakistan through which the insurgents will be supplied. At the same time, the Islamic world, much of which has already condemned the Soviet action, will keep up the pressure of international opinion against the Russians who cannot also expect most Third World countries not to condemn them since they have brazenly flouted the fundamental principles of non-alignment. The Russians appear to have two choices. They can launch a full-scale offensive against the rebels in an attempt to crush them once and for all. Or they can, through the local leaders they have put into office, seek an accommodation of some kind with the dissidents. The former could lead them straight into a Vietnam-type quagmire, the latter they seem most unlikely to accomplish, even if they attempt it. Either way, Afghanistan is still some way from becoming a captive Soviet satellite.

REPORTAGE ON U.S. ARMS SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN

Singh Letter to Carter

BK041414 Hong Kong AFP in English 1350 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 4 Jan (AFP)--Prime Minister Charan Singh has expressed India's concern about intervention by "any country" in the internal developments of another country. Mr Singh, who made this reference in his reply to President Carter's recent letter on developments in Afghanistan, however, urged the American President not to look upon the situation in Afghanistan purely from a military point of view.

According to official sources, Mr Carter's letter of December 31 was silent on the U.S. decision to resume arms supplies to Pakistan. The prime minister, sources said, also urged the American President to consider situations like Afghanistan and to react to them in the larger perspective of the need for stability and peace in the South Asian region.

Mr Singh, who had a meeting with the Soviet ambassador, Vuli Vorontsov on the day he received President Carter's letter, told the ambassador that the presence of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan would have "far-reaching and adverse consequences." The sources said the prime minister expressed reservation and doubt about the reported intention of the United States to increase arms supplies to Pakistan.

Mr. Singh was also said to have emphasised that competitive induction of arms into the South Asian region would only heighten tension and contribute to instability, jeopardizing security and peace in the region.

No Comment on Arms Reduction

BK041631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Official sources in New Delhi have declined to comment on the reported Pakistan proposal for mutual arms reduction by that country and India. They would like to see precise proposals in this regard before expressing any views. Observers, however, regarded as rather strange that such a proposal should come at a time when Pakistan is likely to get more arms from a superpower. India has repeatedly emphasized in various contexts that any action which contributes to an arms race is not conducive to peace.

The Pakistan authorities have meanwhile explained their government's point of view on the developments in Afghanistan to the Indian ambassador.

Haq Asks for Clarification

BK050356 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan says that he has asked for clarifications from Washington regarding the nature of the proposed arms aid and the terms and conditions for the U.S. offer. He said that a decision about the offer will be taken keeping in view the national interests.

Speaking to newsmen in Islamabad, President Ziaul Haq said his country has had a bitter experience in getting American arms aid in the past.

Details of Supplies Reported

BK051107 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Some details of the U.S. supplies of about $150 million of weapons and spare parts to Pakistan have come in. According to a military spokesman in Washington, the equipment includes 230 armored troop carriers, air combat and antitank missiles, communications equipment and spare parts which were purchased earlier by Pakistan but were not delivered by the United States following an arms embargo.

Commentator Scores U.S. Decision

BK061108 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Commentary on U.S. Arms Supply to Pakistan by N.S. Bedi, All India Radio commentator]

[Text] For valid reasons India has strongly opposed the American move to supply a large quantity of arms to Pakistan. The U.S. decision has come in the wake of recent developments in Afghanistan. It is self defeating and will cause instability in the subcontinent.

Pakistan has built up a substantial military power largely with the help of weapons and equipment provided by the United States and China over the past several years. In comparison the Afghan Army is greatly inferior both in weaponry and numbers. It is therefore inconceivable that Afghanistan can ever pose a military threat to Pakistan. By further reinforcing Islamabad's already considerable military might, Washington would only delay and hinder the withdrawal of whatever Soviet troops there might be in Afghanistan.

The United States has been a chronic supplier of war equipment to Pakistan. In the days of the cold war, the ostensible object was to create a military bulwark against communist expansion in the region. Massive quantities of armaments and military hardware were pumped into Pakistan as aid free of cost. When India protested, the Washington authorities gave the assurance that the arms would not be used against this country. But weapons have no ideologies and compunctions--and seldom have the men or nations possessing them. Not only were the arms supplied by the United States, and later by China as well, used against India in the 1965 and 1971 wars, but those very weapons were the prime factor responsible for Pakistan's military attitude which caused the wars.

Once again, new arms are being brought into Pakistan whether directly from the United States or through China. Islamabad does not need them to deal with Kabul and would just dare not clash with the Russians. Thus, India is the only country against which they can be directed.

In April last, the United States cut off even economic aid to Pakistan on the ground that the Pakistanis were setting up an atomic plant capable of producing enriched uranium which is used in making nuclear weapons. American law prohibits military or economic aid to a country doing that. One may ask how has the situation changed since then making Washington rush to Islamabad with sophisticated armored carriers, missiles and artillery on a tray. For, by all accounts, Pakistan's nuclear quest continues unabated. Induction of new and advanced war equipment into Pakistan is likely to generate an undesirable arms race and revive old suspicions and tensions in the region. This will reverse the process of normalization and improvement of relations between India and Pakistan set in motion in recent years after decades of conflict and tension.

What developing countries like Pakistan need is economic growth. For that they require peace, trade, economic and technical cooperation, regional harmony and not foreign weapons, however glittering and streamlined.

Lastly, Pakistan, only a few months ago, joined the nonalined group after forsaking military pacts created by foreign powers. Keeping away from armed intanglement is essential for any nonalined country because they hinder freedom of action and decision which is the very element of nonalinement. By tying itself to one big power or another to get weapons, Pakistan cannot play an effective role as a genuinely nonalined nation.

These are the many dangers of the American step. Let Pakistan see them well and in good time. As for Washington, it should at least now realise that arming a nation excessively and unnecessarily does not bring peace to a region. Nor is that an ideal way to win friends and influence people.

GOVERNMENT AWAITING U.S. INFORMATION ON ENRICHED URANIUM SALES

OW041834 Hong Kong AFP in English 1832 GMT 4 Jan 80 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 4 Jan (AFP)--India is still awaiting official information from the United States on an early shipment of enriched uranium for use at the Tarapur atomic power plant near Bombay, official sources said today.

They were commenting on Washington reports that a broad consensus had been arrived at a meeting of the U.S. National Security Council to go ahead with the controversial further shipment of uranium to India under the existing contract.

There are two applications now pending before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the U.S. for 39.6 tonnes of enriched uranium, it was pointed out here.

Further Report

BK050422 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] No official information has been received in New Delhi so far about the report in a section of the press that the United States is supplying enriched uranium for the Tarapore power plant shortly. Sources in New Delhi, however, do not see any link between these supplies and other developments in this part of the world. India would only be glad if Washington should fulfill its contractual obligations on the supply of fuel for Tarapore if the press report is correct.

TRIPURA SEEKS TO RETURN TRIBAL INFILTRATORS TO BANGLADESH

BK051645 Hong Kong AFP in English 1639 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi 5 Jan (AFP)--The government in the eastern frontier state of Tripura has stepped up preventive measures against an alleged continued influx of Chakma tribals from the Bangladesh hill district of Chittagong, it was reported today.

The reports quoted the state's police chief, Satybrata Basu, as saying that talks had been initiated with the para-military Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) for immediate return of an officially estimated over 1,000 men who had so far infiltrated into Tripura.

DELHI REPORTS ON PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION RESULTS

Congress-I Builds Lead

BK070353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] The early lead set up by the Congress-I in the midterm poll to the seventh Lok Sabha continues to get consolidated as more results pour in from the states where counting is in progress. The Congress-I has annexed 73 seats out of 103, results of which have been announced so far. The electoral fortunes of other parties have so far been not very encouraging. None of them have yet reached the double figure.

Here is the latest party position: Total results declared, 103: Congress-I 73; Janata, 7; Lok Dal, 2; Congress-U, 2; CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], 2; CPI 2; DMK [Dravida Munetra Kazhgam Party], 6; AI-DMK [All India-Dravida Munetra Kazhgam Party], 1; ethera, 7; independents, 1.

The Congress-I has made a clean sweep of all the 14 seats in Karnataka and 13 in Gujarat, where counting was held yesterday. In the dissolved house, the party had only five seats from Gujarat. In Punjab and Delhi, which did not return even a single Congress-I candidate in the Lok Sabha elections less than 3 years ago, the party has achieved spectacular success. In Punjab the Congress-I has captured 12 of the 13 Lok Sabha seats. Only the Taran seat went to the Akali Dal. The Congress-I candidate and the former governor, Mr Jagan Nath Kaushal, has won the Chandigarh Union Territory seat.

He defeated his nearest rival,Mr Ram Swaroop Sharma, independent, by a margin of over 33,000 votes. Mr Krishan Kant of the Janata Party, who was a member of the dissolved Lok Sabha, has been defeated. This constituency had a record number of 39 candidates, including the Congress-U leader, Mrs Ambika Soni. In Sangrur, the Congress-I candidate, Mr Gurcharan Singh, defeated the former union minister, Mr. Surjit Singh Barnala of the Akali Dal, by a margin of over 7,600 votes.

In Tamil Nadu, of the 16 results announced so far, the Congress-I-DMK-Indian Union Muslim League alliance has secured all but one. The Congress-I have got eight, DMK six and Indian Union Muslim League one. The other seat has gone to AI-ADMK.

In Madhya Pradesh, where the Congress-I had secured only one seat in the last Lok Sabha elections, it has taken all the seven seats results for which have been announced.

In Orissa, of the eight results announced so far, the Congress-I has secured seven and one seat has gone to the Lok Dal.

In Kerala, the Congress-I-led United Democratic Front and the CPI-M-led Left Democratic Front have almost broken even, winning five and six seats respectively for the results available so far. The Congress-I has secured one seat each in Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Andaman Nicobar islands. The Janata Party has secured five of the six seats in Maharashtra, results for which have come in so far. It has relatively maintained its hold in metropolitan Bombay, having taken five seats and conceded one seat to the Congress-I.

In Haryana, the Janata Party and the Lok Dal have shared the two seats, results for which have come in till now.

Among the notable returnees are the former external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee from the New Delhi constituency; the Congress-I leader, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, Delhi East; the former chief minister of Punjab and the Congress-I leader, Giani Zail Singh from Hoshiarpur constituency; and Mr Buta Singh of Congress-I.

Among those who have lost are several Union ministers and former ministers. They include Mr Somarendra Kundu, Mr Bala Pajanor, Mr Brahm Prakash, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, Mr H.M. Patel, Mr Sikander Bakht, Mr M.V. Krishnappa, Mr (V. Dassiahya) and Mr Dhana Singh Gulshan. Also among the losers are the former Lok Sabha Speaker Mr G.S. Dhillon, the Congress-I leader Mr C.M. Stephen, the Congress-U leader Mr Vailar Ravi, the CPI leader Mr M.N. Govidan Nair, the RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party] leader Mr Srikantan Nair; the leader of the RPI [Republican Party of India]-Kamle group Mr B.C. Kamle, and the Lok Dal General Secretary Mr Rajendra Puri, who lost his security deposit.

Pondicherry Assembly Polls

BK070724 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpt] In the Pondicherry Assembly poll, the Congress-I-DMK-Indian Union Muslim League alliance has been voted to power. The alliance has bagged 25 of the 30 seats. Among the alliance partners the DMK [Dravida Munetra Kazgham] secured 14 seats, the Congress-I 10, and the Muslim League 1. Of the remaining five seats, three have gone to the Janata Party, one each to the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] and an independent.

The All-India Anna-DMK, which was in power in the dissolved assembly, has drawn a blank. All the 18 party candidates including the former chief minister, Mr Ramaswamy, have been defeated. The CPI, the Congress-U, the Lok Dal and the Gandhi-Karmaraj National Congress also failed to win any seat.

Mrs Gandhi Leads in South

BK070758 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Medak, Andhra Pradesh, the Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, is leading by more than 43,000 votes over her immediate Janata rival, Mr S. Jaipal Reddy.

The prime minister and the Lok Dal president, Mr Charan Singh, has established a lead of over 20,000 over his Congress-I reval, Mr Ram Chander Vikal, in the Baghpat constituency from Uttar Pradesh. Latest reports from the state say that the Congress-I general secretary, Mr H.N. Bahuguna is leading by over 20,000 votes in the Powri Garhwal constituency. His nearest rival is Mr Pratap Singh Pushpawan of the Janata Party.

Mr Sanjay Gandhi of the Congress-I is leading over his nearest Janata rival, Mr Ravendra Pratap Singh, by 5,000 votes from the Amethi constituency. The Janata candidate was a member of the dissolved Lok Sabha and had defeated Mr Sanjay Gandhi in the 1977 elections.

A PTI [Press Trust of India] report says that the counting of votes in the prestigious constituency of Ballia has been suspended following complaints from the contesting candidates. The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, and the union minister, Mr Janeshwar Mishra, are amongst those who are contesting the seat. The former Union energy minister, Mr P. Ramachandran, Janata, was trailing behind the DMK [Dravida Munetra Kazhgam] candidate, Mr A. Kalyanadhi, by about 5,000 votes in Madras Central when reports last came in.

The Congress-I, led by Mrs Indira Gandhi, is heading toward a landslide victory having wrested 90 of the 121 Lok Sabha seats, results of which were declared until noon [0630 GMT] today. The picture however is expected to emerge clearly only after the results from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar start coming in later in the day today.

Here is the latest overall party position: Results declared so far, 121; Janata 7, Lok Dal 3, Congress-I 90, Congress-U 2, CPI [Communist Party of India] 2, CPI-M [CPI-Marxist] 2, DMK 6, A-DMK 1, others 7, independents 1. The total, 121.

Update of Tallies

BK071056 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1030 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] With about a quarter of the results for the Lok Sabha seats available now, the Congress-I is poised to reach a century while no other party has so far crossed their single digit scores. The counting trends from almost all states except West Bengal indicate that the Congress-I is heading for a massive majority.

Here is the latest party position: Results declared so far: 127--Janata 7, Lok Dal 3, Congress-I 96, Congress-U 2, CPI [Communist Party of India- 2, CPI-M [CPI-Marxist] 2, DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam) 6, A-DMK 1, other 7, independents 1. Total 127.

The first four results from Andhra Pradesh have gone in favor of the Congress-I.

According to reports received so far, the Congress-I candidates are leading in nearly half of the constituencies in Bihar where counting is now in progress.

More results from Uttar Pradesh indicate the continuation of the trend in favor of the Congress-I. In Nainital, Mr N.B. Tiwari is leading over his Janata rival. Mrs Indira Gandhi is maintaining her lead both in Rae Bareli and Medak. In Medak her lead is now over 100,000 while in Rae Bareli it is 12,000. Her nearest rivals in both these constituencies are Janata Party nominees.

In Varanasi, Mr Raj Narain has been relegated to the third position. Mr Kamlapati Ptipathi of the Congress-I is now leading by 1,500 votes against his nearest rival, Mr Om Prakash Singh of the Janata.

In Baghpat, the prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, has now further increased his lead up to 31,000.

In Maharashtra, Congress-I is leading in 34 parliamentary constituencies out of 38 of which counting trends have been received. Out of the remaining four, the Janata and the Congress-U are leading in two each.

Out of the 25 total seats in Rajasthan, the Congress-I is leading in 18. The Janata Party is ahead in four, the Lok Dal in two, and the Congress-U in one constituency.

In West Bengal, the left front candidates are leading in five constituencies when reports last came in.

In Madhya Pradesh, the Congress-I appears well set in capturing a majority of the 40 Lok Sabha seats in the state. It has already bagged 8 seats and is leading in 6 other constituencies. Counting is going on in 16 constituencies.

MRS GANDHI SAYS LAW AND ORDER WOULD BE PRIMARY TASK

BK061728 Hong Kong AFP in English 1712 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Jan (AFP)--Former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi said tonight that if she formed the government her first task would be to restore law and order in the country and ensure security to the people.

Mrs. Gandhi was speaking to a PTI NEWS AGENCY correspondent who met her as her party candidates were leading in the majority of constituencies where counting was taking place after the general election.

She said controlling the spiralling prices and improving the economic situation were a close second in the order of priorities. "Law and order and economic situation go hand in hand," she said, according to the PTI.

Mrs. Gandhi said that the current situation in the country was much more difficult because "what we have achieved has been lost."

The mood at Mrs. Gandhi's residence this evening was one of the jubilation as indications of a possible victory for her party became visible as counting of results progressed.

A large number of her supporters were gathering outside her house to congratulate her. Mrs. Gandhi came out briefly to acknowledge their greetings.

Mrs. Gandhi charged the Janata Party with interfering with the electoral list, especially in Delhi, and said the lead of her party's candidates would have been much bigger if voters' lists had not been tampered with.

Replying to questions, Mrs. Gandhi stressed that she was not after power. It hardly mattered whether she was the prime minister or not, she added. She said her only desire was to make India stable and strong.

1 KILLED, 18 INJURED IN ELECTION VIOLENCE

BK062002 Hong Kong AFP in English 1946 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Jan (AFP)--One person was killed and 18 injured in election violences in the eastern state of Bihar which went to the polls today in the second and final phase of the voting for Parliament.

The one killed was in police firing, which also resulted in injuries to two, during a clash between two rival party supporters in Monghyr district. Four such clashes took place at separate places as a result of which 16 people were injured.

In southern Andhra Pradesh police fired in the air at two places to quell similar fights. However none was reported injured. Similar incidents were also reported from Chanduli in Uttar Pradesh and the border town of Belonia in the eastern Tripura state.

PAKISTAN

UN DELEGATE ADDRESSES SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

BK060448 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The UN Security Council has started its meeting to consider the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security.

Speaking at the meeting, Pakistan's delegate urged the Security Council to immediately respond to the grave situation in Afghanistan and call for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops from that Islamic country. Pakistan's ambassador, Niaz A. Naik, described as gross misrepresentation of facts the pretext advanced that the massive military intervention was aimed at protecting Afghanistan from outside intervention. The Pakistani ambassador also called on the Security Council to create conditions which would enable the people of Afghanistan to democratically decide their internal affairs without any foreign interference or domination. Also, he urged that respect for Afghanistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence be acknowledged and strict noninterference in its internal affairs be maintained. He urged the creation of stable and tranquil conditions in Afghanistan to enable the Afghan refugees to voluntarily return to their homeland.

He termed as baseless allegations that Pakistan has been providing arms and training to nearly 400,000 Afghan refugees. He said Pakistan has strictly maintained its policy of noninterference and neutrality and Pakistan's humanitarian concern for the Afghan refugees has been misconstrued. Niaz A. Naik said Pakistan is not the only country which has voiced its concern over foreign military intervention in Afghanistan. He said this unjust action against a sovereign state has aroused the indignation of freedom-loving people throughout the world. He referred to the statements issued by a great majority of nations including the Islamic and nonalined countries. He said any attempt to impose a solution of the internal political crisis in Afghanistan by use of force and dispatch of troops is bound to be futile and have negative consequences. It will aggravate the situation and prolong the difficulties of the Afghan people.

At the outset, Mr Naik spoke of the brotherly sentiments that the people of Pakistan have always had toward the people of Afghanistan. Pakistan has consistently followed a policy of friendship and cooperation with Afghanistan. This policy has remained unaltered despite the changes of government in Afghanistan since April 1978. Pakistan was the first country to recognize the late President Taraki's government and President Ziaul Haq was the first head of state to visit Kabul for talks with the new Afghan rulers.

Mr Naik also mentioned the extraordinary measures taken by Pakistan to facilitate transit of Afghan goods through Pakistan to help the new Afghan Government to overcome its economic difficulties. He said it is inconceivable that the uprising in Afghanistan could have been promoted and prompted with the help of Pakistan. He said that the uprising has been spontaneous and a result of the present internal political crisis in Afghanistan.

Diplomatic sources say that Pakistan's demand for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan is expected to form the basis of a formal resolution on the crisis in Afghanistan.

KARACHI DENIES CHARGE IT IS TRAINING AFGHAN MOJAHEDIN

BK061236 Karachi Overseas Service in Bengali 0115 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Soviet newspapers PRAVDA and IZVESTIYA reiterated their charge against Pakistan saying the Afghan mojahedin have been provided with military training to fight against the Kabul government. At the same time, these newspapers also accused the United States and China saying they have been providing assistance to Pakistan to train Afghan mojahedin. Similar charges were made against Pakistan 1 and 1/2 years ago, when Nur Mohammad Taraki captured power in Afghanistan by toppling the government of Sardar Daud Khan through a bloody revolution. But the fact of the matter is that after the April 1978 Revolution, the Kabul rulers pursued certain policies which were unacceptable to the vast majority of the Afghan people. The religious people of Afghanistan considered these policies as anti-Islamic and were thus forced to take up arms against them.

Pakistan has on various occasions and at the highest level refuted the charge that it has provided military training to Afghan mojahedin. Pakistan President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has categorically announced that no Afghan mojahedin has been provided military training in Pakistan and that no such a training camps exist Pakistan territory. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] has accepted Pakistan's point of view in this regard. A number of delegations of the commission have visited Pakistan to review the condition of the refugees sheltered in Pakistan and to see to their daily needs. These delegations have clearly announced in their reports that they did not find any military training camps in any part of Pakistan and they did not see any evidence to indicate Pakistan has been providing military training to Afghan mojahedin. The charge levelled against Pakistan of providing military training to mojahedin with the assistance of the United States and China, even after a clear report from a responsible organization of the United Nations, is ill-intended. The fact is that such false and heinous accusations are made to divert world attention from the real situation and open military invention in Afghanistan.

It is true that Pakistan has offered shelter to Afghan citizens who have fled to Pakistan to save their lives and has been meeting their daily needs. Pakistan has been providing shelter and food to these 400,000 refugees according to Islamic teachings and on humanitarian grounds.

As an Islamic country, Pakistan cannot but give shelter to its Afghan brethren. An analysis of Pakistan's current economy will reveal that Pakistan cannot afford to supply arms to the Afghan refugees. Expenditures for food, clothing and medicine for the Afghan refugees are straining Pakistan's economy. The UNHCR only recently decided to provide assistance to the refugees; for the last 1 and 1/2 years, Pakistan on its own has been providing shelter and food to the refugees. The welfare organizations of the country are cooperating with the government in this regard. Pakistan has started to receive aid from the United Nations and different Islamic countries. President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed his gratitude to all of them.

In the external sphere, Pakistan has been pursuing a policy or noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. Pakistan cannot but help the Muslim brethren who have left their homes to save their lives. Pakistan will continue to fulfill its religious and humanitarian responsibilities without interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. No world power can stop it from performing this duty.

KARACHI RADIO REPORTS CARTER'S MEASURES AGAINST USSR

BK050342 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President Carter has imposed a ban on sales of high technology items to the Soviet Union in retaliation to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. He also announced a sharp reduction in American foodgrain shipments to the Soviet Union. President Carter also stated that the opening of new consular facilities between the two countries would be deferred and activities of the Soviet fishing trawlers in U.S. waters curtailed.

In an address to the nation he said history has taught us a lesson that aggression unopposed becomes a contagious disease. He said the Soviet dominance of Afghanistan can eventually threaten the security of the West. A Soviet-occupied Afghanistan can pose a danger to its neighboring countries and become a stepping stone to Soviet control over much of the world's oil deposits.

Earlier, President Carter held consultations on the crisis in Afghanistan with Defense Secretary Harold Brown and other high officials. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and National Security Adviser Brzezinski also took part in the talks. Mr Brown is expected to leave Washington today for Beijing for consultations with the Chinese leaders. He will exchange views with Chinese leaders especially on the situation in Afghanistan.

DEFENSE MINISTER QUESTIONED ON AFGHAN REFUGEE POLICY

BK041628 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Defense Minister Mir Ali Ahmed Khan Talpur told newsmen in Peshawar today that Pakistan was fully capable of defending its territorial integrity. In answer to a question, he said that Pakistan was giving shelter to Afghan refugees purely on humanitarian grounds and the government would not allow them to create any problem.

He said the country needed complete unity of action and thought at this grave juncture as responsibilities devolved equally on all people irrespective of their sphere of activity or affiliation.

HAQ PRESIDES OVER HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW OF AFGHAN SITUATION

BK051532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq presided over a high-level meeting in Rawalpindi today which reviewed the situation arising out of the latest incidents in Afghanistan. APP [Associated Press of Pakistan], reporting this, has said that the meeting also reviewed important matters relating to the defense and security of the country. The chief of naval staff, the chief of the air force, the deputy chief of the army staff and the secretary general of the ministry of defense, among others, participated in the meeting.

Cabinet Discussion, Shahi's Visit

BK061019 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The federal cabinet, which met in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of the chief martial law administrator, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, discussed developments in the region with particular reference to the situation in Afghanistan and the recent visit to Iran of the adviser on foreign affairs.

7 Jan Cabinet Session

BK070236 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq is presiding over a high-level meeting in Rawalpindi today to review the situation created by the recent events in Afghanistan. The meeting will be attended by high senior civil and military advisers including the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, the foreign secretary, and Pakistan's ambassadors in Kabul and Moscow. The government has recalled its envoys from the Afghan and Soviet capitals for consultations.

The federal cabinet discussed the situation in Afghanistan at its meeting in Rawalpindi yesterday. The meeting stressed that all decisions are made keeping in view the nation's interests and welfare. A constant review of the situation in Afghanistan is being maintained.

KHOMEYNI'S REPRESENTATIVE ARRIVES IN LAHORE FOR 2-DAY VISIT

BK051736 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] (Ayatollah Haji Hossayn Noori,) special representative of the Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni arrived in Lahore this evening on a 2-day visit to the Punjab capital. He told newsmen at the airport that he was not on a political mission. He said he would break his stay in Pakistan to visit Bangladesh to attend there the discussion on of Islamic renaissance celebrations and then come back again to visit Islamabad and Peshawar.

Reiterates Support to Afghanistan

BK070546 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 7 Jan 80 BK

[Text] (Ayatollah Hossayn Noori), the special representative of Iranian revolutionary and religious leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, now visiting Pakistan, has said Iran is an Islamic country and cannot remain silent over the difficulties presently faced by Afghanistan, another Islamic nation. He told a press conference in Lahore yesterday that Iran will provide whole-hearted assistance to Afghanistan.

DELHI: INTERIOR MINISTER CANCELS VISIT TO BANGLADESH

BK051110 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The interior minister of Pakistan, Mr Mohmud Haroon has canceled his visit to Bangladesh. This follows a mob attack on the touring Pakistani cricketeers in Chittagong.